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Attorneys for Plaintiff Gary Fernandez



VED JAN 3 3 1989

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

GARY FERNANDEZ,

Plaintiff,

v.

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DAVID HALL; PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE, a California corporation; STEVEN IVY; JAMES HALPERIN; HERITAGE CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Texas corporation; and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. SA CV88-556 JSL (RWRx)

SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES FOR VIOLATION OF 18 U.S.C. \$1961 (CIVIL RICOO; FOR GOODS SOLD AND DELIVERED; BREACH OF ORAL CONTRACT; INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS; NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS; CONVERSION; CLAIM AND DELIVERY; AND PENDENT STATE COMMON COUNT CLAIMS

[DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL]

Plaintiff alleges:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This action arises under 18 U.S.C. Sections 1961 and 1962 and pendant state claims as hereinafter more fully alleged. This court has jurisdiction under and by virtue of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961 et seq.
- 2. Venue is founded in this judicial district upon 18
 U.S.C. Section 1965(a) as the place of residence of defendant David
 Hall is in this district, as well as this being the district in

which defendant Professional Coin Grading Service has its corporate offices, where plaintiff's coins have been secreted, and is a district within which Heritage Capital Corporation does business.

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PARTIES

- At all times herein mentioned, plaintiff Gary Fernandez was and now is, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the State of California, County of Alameda, and at all times herein mentioned was doing business throughout the state of California and the United States as a rare coin dealer.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Professional Coin Grading Service (hereinafter referred to as "PCGS") is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a California corporation, with its principal place of business in the County of Orange, City of Newport Beach, State of California. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that said 16|| corporation does business throughout the United States and is an enterprise within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(4).
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, 5. that defendant David Hall is a person whose residence is in the 21 City of Newport Beach, County of Orange, State of California.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Heritage Capital Corporation (hereinafter referred to as 24 "Heritage") is a corporation organized in the State of Texas and doing business throughout the State of California, including 26 Newport Beach, California, and that Heritage is an enterprise within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(4).
 - Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges 7.

that defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin are now, and at all times herein mentioned were, persons who are residents of the State of Texas.

- 8. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities and identities of defendants DOES 1 through 20 and therefore sues said defendants by such fictitious names, and will ask leave of court to amend this complaint and set forth the true names and capacities of said defendants when same are ascertained.
- 9. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each of the Doe defendants were, and are, in some way liable for the losses hereinafter alleged to plaintiff, and plaintiff will amend this complaint to set forth the true nature of the acts and/or omissions of each said Doe defendant, proximately causing said loss to plaintiff when said loss is ascertained.
- 10. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each of the individual defendants herein, including defendants Does 1 through 20 were and are the agents, employees or representatives of Hall, Halperin and/or Ivy, and in doing the things herein alleged, were acting within the scope and agency of said employment.
- 11. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that each and all of the defendants herein, in doing the act or actions herein alleged, were acting in consort with, and as the agents, employees, or representatives of each and all of their codefendants and in furtherance of a conspiracy between Hall, Halperin, Ivy & Does 1 through 20.

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GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

(RICO)

- 12. At all times herein mentioned David Hall, Steven Ivy and James Halperin and Does 1-20 were and are "persons" within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(3) et seq.
- Service and Heritage Capital Corporation were enterprises engaged in the numismatic industry. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that PCGS was in the business of grading coins by appraisal submitted to it by subscribing members. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that once graded (appraised), said coins are then sealed in a plastic container with the grade (appraisal) affixed thereto with the express purpose and intent of placing the thus graded and encased coin into interstate commerce for sale and resale in the numismatic industry by PCGS members.
- the intersstate sale of the PCGS graded coins, PCGS created an Interstate Wire Service, serving the entire Continental United States, known as "ANE". Only members of PCGS may belong to ANE and ANE is used for the purpose of advertising for the purchase and sale of coins and in connection with setting prices for a particular coin of a specified "grade". For example, an 1892 \$5.00 "Liberty" gold piece having been graded MS 64 would have a market value of X, and an 1892 \$5.00 "Liberty" gold piece having been graded MS. 63 would have a market value of X-Y. The actual value in the marketplace may be determined by what a willing buyer will pay to a willing seller, each being subscribers to "ANE". If a seller advertises an 1892 \$5.00 "Liberty" MS. 64 on ANE for X, it

is accepted as being the same as any other 1892 MS. 64 \$5.00 "Liberty". The buyer doesn't see the coin until after the transaction is made and the buyer's check is mailed.

- 15. Plaintiff, having been a member of PCGS and a subscriber to the "ANE" wire service, is informed and believes that the vast majority of transactions in PCGS graded coins are conducted through the use of the "ANE" wire service, with payment for the coin sent through the U.S. Mail.
- 16. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that Heritage Capital Corporation is an enterprise engaged in the business of buying and selling coins within the numismatic industry and through the United States mails, among other methods.

 Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that the price paid for or received by Heritage is, in part, determined by the grade (appraisal) of any specific coin being bought or sold by it. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that HCC was a member of PCGS and used, on an almost exclusive basis, PCGS to grade (appraise) coins sold by said HCC.
- 17. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin did form an association and conspiracy to engage in unlawful acts and violate plaintiff's rights in an attempt to put plaintiff out of business by the conduct hereinafter expressly set forth.

PATTERN OF RACKETEERING ACTS

18. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendants Ivy, Halperin and Hall have engaged in two or more racketeering acts as prohibited by 18 U.S.C. 1961, et seq. as follows:

(a) Within ten years last past, to wit, in or about October of 1987, Hall, through an agent, DOE XX violated 18 U.S.C. Sections 471, 472, and 473 and USC 1341 relating to counterfeiting in that Hall did transport through interstate mail, for the purpose of passing same off to Alan Hagar as authentic, a 1892 \$5.00 "Liberty" United States coin being a counterfeit coin. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Hall knew at the time that said coin was counterfeit;

- (b) Within ten years last past, to wit, in or about November, 1987, plaintiff is informed and believes that defendant Hall violated 18 U.S.C. Sections 471, 472, and 473 and 18 USC 1341 relating to counterfeiting in that Hall did transport through or cause to be transported through interstate mail, (in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341) for the purpose of passing same of to Alan Hagar as an authentic United States Coin, a 1925 D "Indian" counterfeit coin. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Hall knew at the time that said coin was counterfeit;
- (c) Plaintiff is informed and believes that the acts of Hall as identified in Paragraph 18 (a) and (b) hereof were part of an effort to put Alan Hagar out of business by discrediting said Alan Hagar and his competing appraisal and grading business known as "ACCUGRADE". In furtherance of the object of putting "ACCUGRADE" out of business, plaintiff is informed and believes that defendant Hall did, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1951(a), in or about October of 1987, physically, threaten the person of Alan Hagar, both personally and through Does XVIII and XIX by threats of physical injury in an attempt to obstruct and interfere with Alan Hagar's business "Accugrade" as a competitor in interstate commerce

with defendant Hall's Company, PCGGS.

19. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that as and each of them have engaged in the above pattern of acts with respect to plaintiff as they had with respect to Alan Hagar for the purpose of putting plaintiff out of business.

- 20. Within ten years last past, to wit, in or about July 1988, plaintiff is informed and believes that defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin conspired to, and did violate 18 U.S.C. Sections 2314 and 2315 relating to interstate transportation of stolen property in that defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin caused the coins identified in Exhibit "A" hereof, received by Heritage (pursuant to the theft by fraud herein alleged in paragraph 21 hereof) to be transported from Ohio to New York and/or California and/or Texas;
- 21. Plaintiff is informed and believes that within ten years last past, to wit, July of 1988, defendant Halperin, acting on behalf of the conspiracy alleged in Paragraph 17 hereof, physically threatened Brian Fazio (who acted as an agent for Plaintiff) if Fazio continued to do business with plaintiff, which said physical threat constituted a violation of 18 U.S.C. §1951;

COUNT ONE

(RICO)

- 22. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference, paragraphs 1 through 21 as if fully set forth herein.
- 23. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that defendants Hall, Ivy, & Halperin and Does 2 through 10, inclusive, conspired to commit and committed mail fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1341, in that they took coins and inventory of plaintiff through the use of a scheme and artifice

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with the intent to obtain plaintiff's property and permanently deprive plaintiff thereof, through the use of the United States Mails, by deceit and through making the following material misrepresentations of fact:

- On or about July 14, 1988, defendants (i) Halperin and Ivy, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, represented to plaintiff and plaintiff's agent Brian Fazio, that they would pay the fair market price of \$807,378 as agreed upon by the parties and set forth in Exhibit "A" hereof for gold and silver coins;
- That defendants Halperin, Ivy and Does 2 (ii) through 5, inclusive, represented that they were acquiring said coins for, and on behalf of the enterprise known as Heritage Capital Corporation, in an arms length business transaction common within the numismatic industry;
- (iii) That plaintiff would be paid the agreed upon sum of \$807,374 for the specified coins, payment to be mailed through the United States mails.
- The truth, known to defendants Halperin, Ivy and Hall, but unknown to plaintiff, was that:
- (i) Defendants Ivy, Halperin, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, acting in association and conspiracy with defendants Hall and Does 6 through 10, intended to acquire, without payment therefor, all of plaintiff's coin inventory with the intent to permanently deprive plaintiff thereof without payment therefor, for the purpose of putting plaintiff out of business.
- (ii) That defendants Halperin, Ivy, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, acting as directors, officers, agents and employees of Heritage, and acting at all times within the scope of

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such agency and employment, sought to deprive plaintiff of his property without any compensation whatsoever, and intended to and, in fact did, effect a theft of plaintiff's property having an approximate value at the time of said theft of the sum of \$807,374.

- That after taking possession of plaintiff's coins, defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin first violated 18 U.S. C. 1341 by mailing through United States mail and thereafter dishonoring check for payment for said coins and thereafter violated Sections 2314 and 2315 by transporting said coins from Ohio to the states of New York, Texas and California;
- Plaintiff is informed and believes that within ten years last past, to wit, on or about July 10, 1988, defendants Ivy and Halperin conspired to commit and committed mail fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341 in that they caused HCC to obtain property of Plaintiff being Gold and Silver coins having a value of \$84,310 and agreeing to pay for same by check sent through he United States mail and thereafter caused said HCC to check to be dishonored, effecting the scheme to obtain Plaintiff's property through the use of the United States mails.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges 27. that all acts of defendants and each of them, was done with intent to defraud plaintiff of his property.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges 28. that on or about July 10, 1988 defendants Ivy and Halperin conspired to and did commit mail fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341 in that they caused HCC to obtain property of plaintiff having a fair market value of \$84,310, being Gold and Silver coins and representing that same would be paid for by check sent through the

United States Mail.

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29. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that defendants Hall, Ivy, & Halperin and Does 2 through 10, inclusive, conspired to commit and committed mail fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1341, in that they took coins and inventory of plaintiff through the use of a scheme and artifice with the intent to obtain plaintiff's property and permanently deprive plaintiff thereof, through the use of the United States Mails, by deceit and through making the following material misrepresentations of fact:

- (i) On or about July 10, 1988, defendants
 Halperin and Ivy, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, represented to
 plaintiff in a telephone conversation that HCC would pay the fair
 market price of \$84,310 as agreed upon by the parties for certain
 gold and silver coins.
- (ii) That defendants Halperin, Ivy and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, represented that they were acquiring said coins for, and on behalf of the enterprise known as Heritage Capital Corporation, in an arms length business transaction common within the numismatic industry;
- (iii) That plaintiff would be paid the agreed upon sum of \$84,310 for the coins, payment to be mailed through the United States mails.
- (iv) Defendants Halprin, Hall and Ivy used interstate wire transmission in the form of a telephone conversation in furtherance of its scheme and artiface to obtain plaintiff's property without payment therefor in that, on or about July 10, 1988 prior to plaintiff's delivery of the coins referred

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to in paragraph 29.(i) hereof, plaintiff received a call from an employee of HCC whom plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges was acting at the express instructions of defendants Halprin and Ivy and who advised plaintiff that if plaintiff would send the coins that day, HCC would mail its check in payment therefor in the sum of \$84,310 concurrently.

- (v) Had plaintiff not received the check for \$84,310 plaintiff would not have parted with the \$807,378 in gold and silver coins referred to in paragraph 23.(i) hereof.
- (vi) Plaintiff is informed and believes that both the phone call and the mailing of the \$84,310 check, (later dishonored) were part of the scheme and artiface to deprive plaintiff of his property, both with respect to the \$84,310 worth of gold and silver coins referred to in paragraph 29. (i) hereof and with respect to the \$807,378 worth of gold and silver coins referred to in paragraph 23. (i) hereof in that plaintiff would not have sent \$807,378 worth of coins had not plaintiff received the check for \$84,310. Plaintiff further alleges that the \$807,378 transaction referred to in paragraph 23. (i) occurred subsequent to receipt of the \$84,310 check and prior to notification that said check had been dishonored by HCC.
- 30. The truth, known to defendants Halperin, Ivy and Hall, but unknown to plaintiff, was that:
- (i) Defendants Ivy, Halperin, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, acting in association and conspiracy with defendants Hall and Does 6 through 10, intended to acquire, without payment therefor, all of plaintiff's coin inventory with the intent to permanently deprive plaintiff thereof without payment therefor, for

the purpose of putting plaintiff out of business.

through 5, inclusive, acting as directors, officers, agents and employees of Heritage, and acting at all times within the scope of such agency and employment, sought to deprive plaintiff of his property without any compensation whatsoever, and intended to and, in fact did, effect a theft of plaintiff's property having an approximate value at the time of said theft of the sum of \$807,374.

- 31. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that all acts of defendants and each of them, were done with the intent to defraud plaintiff of his property;
- 32. On or about July 14, 1988, plaintiff received a check sent through the United States Mail from HCC for the sum of \$84,310 in payment for said Gold and Silver coins referred to in Paragraph 28 and 29;
- 33. On or about July 14, 1988, plaintiff was informed that said check from HCC referred to in Paragraph 32; was dishonored by HCC.
- and Halperin, acting on behalf of the conspiracy alleged in Paragraph 17 hereof caused said check referred to in Paragraph 32 and 33 to be dishonored pursuant to a scheme and artifice to deprive plaintiff of his property, all in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341.
- 35. If plaintiff had known the true facts to be as set forth in Paragraphs 30 above, plaintiff would not have engaged in the transaction hereinabove alleged, nor would plaintiff have delivered said coins to Ivy, Halperin or Does 1 through 5 nor would plaintiff

have accepted payment to be made by check sent through the United States mails.

- 36. Plaintiff was reasonable in assuming the veracity and truth of the statements of defendants Ivy, Halperin and Does 2 through 5, as set forth in Paragraphs 23 (i), (ii) and (iii) and 29 (i), (ii), (iii) in that said defendants and plaintiff have done business over a several year period in the past, and plaintiff has always been paid for coins purchased by HCC by check sent through the United States mail. Accordingly, plaintiff was justified in the assumption that HCC would continue to pay by check sent through the United States mail for gold and silver coins shipped to them at their specific request without thereafter dishonoring same.
- 37. As a direct and proximate result of the theft effected through fraud and device as hereinabove alleged, plaintiff has sustained damages in the sum of \$807,376 and \$84,310. Plaintiff seeks that said sum be tripled and that plaintiff be awarded Attorneys fees pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1964.
- 38. By reason of the acts of racketeering and the pattern of racketeering as above alleged by defendants Ivy, Halperin, hall and Does 2 through 10, inclusive, and the conspiracy to commit he acts of theft from plaintiff and interstate transportation of those stolen goods as alleged in Paragraphs 23, 24, 29 and 30 plaintiff has been damaged in the sum of \$807,374 and \$84,310 accordingly, plaintiff seeks damages in said sum and that said sum be tripled and that defendants be required to pay plaintiff's attorney's fees.
- 39. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that at all times herein mentioned defendants Ivy, Halperin and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, were the agents, employees, directors

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or officers of the enterprise known as Heritage Cap. tion and that in doing the things herein alleged were acting within the course and scope of said agency and employment, thus rendering Heritage liable for any damages attributable to said persons by reason of respondeat superior.

40. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that Defendant Hall and defendants Does 6 through 10 were acting at all times herein mentioned as the agents, employees, officers or directors of the enterprise known as Professional Coin Grading Services and that at all times herein mentioned they were acting within the course and scope of said agency and employment; accordingly, plaintiff seeks damages from Professional Coin Grading Services on the basis of respondeat superior.

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COUNT TWO

(RICO - Insider Grading)

18 USC 1341 & 1343

- 41. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every allegation contained in Paragraphs 1 through 24 hereof as though set forth hereat in full.
- 42. Plaintiff is informed and believes that defendant Hall, in conspiracy with defendant Ivy and Halperin and Does 11-17 have engaged in a scheme and artifice to manipulate the value of various coins fraudulently overgraded as hereinafter alleged in violation 25 of 18 U.S.C. 1341 and 18 U.S.C. 1343 and effected said scheme by and through the use of the United States mail and through the use 27 of any interstate wire system known as "ANE" specifically for 28 members of PCGS in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341 and 1343

Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, 43. that Steven Ivy and James Halperin, by and through Heritage Capital Corporation, acquired an interest in (and are undisclosed principals and owners of) an equity interest in an entity known as the David Hall Group, which said group, plaintiff is informed and believes, is the owner (either equitably or legally) of an interest in Professional Coin Grading Services. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that said interest was acquired in or about March of 1986 for a sum approximating \$2

million dollars.

- 44. Subsequent to April of 1986, David Hall and Halperin and Ivy, conspired to and agreed to (and did in fact) commence a course of conduct pursuant to which favored members of the PCGS service obtained grades for coins submitted to PCGS for grading in excess of the true, accurate and fair grading for said coin, enabling the favored party to obtain, on the open market, and through the use of an interstate wire service known as "ANE" price for said coin far in excess of its actual fair market value.
- 45. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that such specific overgrading for insiders included overgrading for coins submitted to PCGS by Heritage Capital Corporation and others sued herein as Does 6-17, inclusive. Without limitation said overgraded coins include:
- (a) PCGS Coin Number 7124745, a 1883 "O" originally graded M.S. 65; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88, resubmitted for grading by plaintiff through an agent and was regraded as MS.64 said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained. Plaintiff will amend to set forth

the amount when ascertained.

(b) PCGS Coin Number 7124740, originally graded M.S. 65; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88, resubmitted to PCGS for grading by Plaintiff through an agent and which was regraded as MS. 64 said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.

- (c) PCGS Coin Number 8070958, originally graded M.S. 64; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88, resubmitted to PCGS for grading by plaintiff through an agent and which was regraded as MS. 63 said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (d) PCGS Coin Number 9006886, originally graded M.S. 64P/L; purchased by plaintiff resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 63 said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (e) PCGS Coin Number 8041794, originally graded M.S. 65; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 64, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (f) PCGS Coin Number 7110569, originally graded M.S. 66; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through and agent for regrading, it was returned ungradeable, said ungrading adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is

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PCGS Coin Number 8035447, originally graded M.S. 63; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 64, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.

- PCGS Coin Number 1278325, originally graded M.S. 66; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 64, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (i) PCGS Coin Number 2250475, originally graded M.S. 65; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 64, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (j) PCGS Coin Number 6077910, originally graded M.S. 64; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 63, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (k) PCGS Coin Number 8046204, originally graded M.S. 63; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent 24 for regrading as MS. 62, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (1) PCGS Coin Number 6077928, originally graded M.S. 28 63; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent

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for regrading as MS. 62, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.

- (m) PCGS Coin Number 6078039, originally graded M.S. 63, purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 62, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- 46. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that by reason of said insider over grading, defendants Hall, Halperin, Ivy and Does 1 through 20, inclusive, engaged in and committed a violation of 18 U.S.C. §1961 in that said fraudulently graded coins were upon information and belief, placed into interstate commerce by United States mail by PCGS.
- 47. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that after original grading said coins were placed into interstate commerce through the use of the United States mail and/or offered for sale through the United States mails and /or interstate wire 19 service ("ANE") owned and operated by a wholly owned affiliate of 20 PCGS and with full knowledge of PCGS. Said false and fraudulently 21 graded coins were not of the values as represented, and all in 22 | violation of 18 U.S.C. §1341 and §1343.
- 48. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, 24 that the beneficiaries of said insider over grading and the 25 resultant acts of mail and wire fraud occurring thereby are, 26 without limitation, include William Spears, Joe Flynn, James 27 Halperin, David Hall, the David Hall Group, Steven Ivy, Heritage 28 Capital Corporation, and others sued herein as Does 11 - 17, the

exact names of which are presently unascertained by plaintiff who will ask leave of court to amend this complaint to set forth same when fully ascertained.

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(i) PCGS has stated, and plaintiff believes that

PCGS maintains lists, by coin number, of the submittor of each coin

graded by PCGS and that PCGS knows specifically which coin was

submitted by which PCGS member for grading and that defendants

David Hall and PCGS has information superior to that of the

plaintiff herein as to which specific insider submitted for grading
each of the specific coins identified in paragraph 45. a. - m.

hereof.

- 49. Plaintiff did acquire various such coins and did invest thousands of dollars, the exact amount of which is presently unknown but exceeds \$10,000.00. Plaintiff will ask leave of court to amend this complaint to state said amount, according to proof at the time of trial.
- 50. Plaintiff is informed and believes that as a result of the violations of 18 U.S.C. §1341, and §1343 sum not yet ascertained but exceeds \$10,000.00. Plaintiff will ask leave of court to amend this complaint when same are ascertained, or according to proof at time of trial.
- 51. Plaintiff will request that damages, when ascertained, be trebled as provided in 18 U.S.C. §1964, and that attorney fees be awarded.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

PENDENT STATE CLAIMS

52. On or about July 14, 1988, and to and including July 20, 28 1988, plaintiff delivered to Doe 2, acting for defendants Ivy,

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Halperin, Hall and Heritage, gold and silver coins for an agreed upon sum of \$807,378. Said coins are itemized on Exhibit "A" hereof, and incorporated hereat by this reference.

- 53. Neither whole nor any part of said sum has been paid, and there is presently due, owing and payable from defendants Ivy, Halperin, Hall and Heritage to plaintiff the sum of \$807,378.
- 54. PCGS is a business enterprise presently operated through another entity, sued herein as Doe 1. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Doe 1 is owned by defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin. The business of PCGS consists of the grading, by appraisal, of valuable coins, sealing the coin so appraised in an impenetrable plastic casing with its appraisal and guaranteeing the value of the coin to be as graded based upon the then current market value for such coins of said grade.
- 55. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that each and all of the defendants herein, in doing the act or actions herein alleged, were acting in consort with, and as the agents, employees, or representatives of each and all of their codefendants.
- 56. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that Heritage was and is a mere sham and shell organized and operated as the alter ego of the individual defendants, Steven Ivy and James Halperin, for their personal benefit and advantage in that the individual defendants have at all times herein mentioned exercised total dominion and control over the corporate defendant and that the individual defendants were and are the only significant shareholders of the corporation. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and hereon alleges, that the individual defendants,

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Steven Ivy and James Halperin, and the corporate defendant, Heritage have so intermingled their personal and financial affairs that the corporate defendant was and is the alter ego of the said individual defendants such that an injustice will result if the theoretical entity of the corporate defendant is not disregarded and the individual defendant's held liable for the indebtedness of the corporate defendant.

57. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges that PCGS was and is a mere sham and shell organized and operated as the alter ego of the individual defendants David Hall, Steven Ivy and James Halperin for their personal benefit and advantage in that said individual defendants have at all times herein mentioned exercised total dominion and control over PCGS. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges that the individual defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin and the corporate defendant PCGS have so intermingled their personal and financial affairs that the corporate defendant PCGS was and is the alter ego of defendant David Hall and that an injustice will result of the theoretical entity of the corporate defendant is not disregarded and the individual defendant David Hall be held liable for the indebtedness of the corporate defendant.

COUNT THREE

24 (Against Defendants Heritage, Steven Ivy And 25 James Halperin For Goods Sold And Delivered)

- 58. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 57 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
 - 59. Within two years, on or about July 14 through July 20,

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27 28 1988, defendant Heritage as the alter ego of defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, became indebted to plaintiff for goods sold and delivered by plaintiff to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, who then and there agreed to pay the sum of \$807,378 for said goods.

Neither the whole nor any part of the above sum has been paid although demand therefore has been made and there is now due, owing and unpaid from defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin to plaintiff the sum of \$807,378, together with interest thereon at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 20, 1988.

COUNT FOUR

(For Breach Of Oral Contract Against Defendants Heritage, Ivy nd Halperin)

- 61. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 60 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 62. On or about July 20, 1988, plaintiff and defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin entered into an oral agreement whereby plaintiff agreed to sell and deliver antique gold and silver coins having an agreed value of \$807,378, and defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin agreed to pay the specific sum of \$807,378 for said coins.
- 63. Plaintiff has performed all conditions, covenants and promises required by him on his part to be performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract and said coins were delivered to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin by plaintiff through plaintiff's agent on or about July 20, 1988.
 - 64. On or about July 20, 1988, defendants breached the oral

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agreement by failing and refusing to pay the sum agreed upon, notwithstanding that defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin took possession of said gold and silver coins, and have acknowledged receipt thereof and now refuse to either forthwith pay the said agreed sum of \$807,378 or to return the coins, notwithstanding demand therefore having been made.

65. As a direct and proximate result of the breach of contract by defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, plaintiff has been damaged in the sum of \$807,378 plus interest thereon at the legal rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 20, 1988 until said sum is paid.

COUNT FIVE

(For Slander Per Se Against Defendants Professional
Coin Grading Service, David Hall, Steven Ivy, James
Halperin, Heritage Capital Corporation,

And Does 1 Through 10, Inclusive)

- 66. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 65 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 67. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that commencing on or about July 14, 1988 defendants David Hall, acting individually and for and on behalf of defendant PCGS and defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, acting individually and for and on behalf of defendant Heritage, and defendants Does 1

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through 10, inclusive, published both by speaking and upon information and belief, in written form, the following words, of and concerning the plaintiff:

- Defendant Hall published allegations that PCGS's security system had been breached and that between two hundred and five hundred coins were allegedly being fraudulently sold as having been analyzed, graded and sealed by PCGS but which coins, in fact, were not analyzed, graded and sealed by PCGS.
- (b) Defendant Hall, together with defendants Ivy and Halperin, and defendants Does 1 through 10 orally published an accusation associating plaintiff with said fraudulent coins essentially telling people with whom plaintiff did business, and who then owed plaintiff money, in connection with coins sold by plaintiff that such persons should not do business with plaintiff. Said named defendants further stated that plaintiff has been selling fraudulent coins.
- (c) Defendant Hall, individually, and defendants Ivy and Halperin, did further orally publish statements accusing plaintiff of being under investigation by the FBI for criminal and/or fraudulent conduct relating to the sale of the fraudulent Said defendants, along with defendants Does 1 through 10, further advised people with whom plaintiff was engaged in a business relationship not to pay plaintiff for any coins he has sold, not to do business with plaintiff because he was engaged in fraudulennt coin sales and further stated that they were going to "close him down".
- 68. These words were heard by Joel Rettew, Charles 28 Anestasia, Steven Ivy, James Halperin, John Highfill, Heritage

Capital Corporation and other persons not presently known to plaintiff.

- 69. These words were slanderous per se because they attack plaintiff in his reputation in business and impugn to plaintiff criminal acts and fraudulent acts.
- 70. The words uttered were false because plaintiff has not altered any of the PCGS packaging, nor has plaintiff ever knowingly sold any coin in an altered PCGS package. Moreover, PCGS has placed in the marketplace packaged coins with gross errors in grading which plaintiff is informed and believes may constitute some of the allegedly fraudulent coins to which defendant Hall refereed as set forth in allegations set forth in Paragraph 53, above.
- 71. The words carry a defamatory meaning because, the market value for any given coin is effected by the grading of said coin by PCGS. If a PCGS graded coin has been altered or substituted, the buyer will receive a coin having a value other than as represented by the grade of the coin set forth on the tag accompanying the coin in the sealed plastic container. If a coin merchant is accused of selling fraudulently grade or pacheyed coins, no one hearing and believing said accusation will do business with such person since they cannot rely upon the value of the coins being sold by such person.
- 72. The words were understood by those who read and/or heard them in a way that defamed plaintiff because, a fraudulent coin means that either the integrity of the plastic packaging has been damaged and the coin has been replaced or substituted for ther coin, or the integrity of the plastic packaging has been

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compromised and the paper tag showing the grading of the coin has been altered or substituted In either way, the purchaser of the said coin is not getting that which is being represented as a PCGS specifically graded coin.

- 73. As a result of the above described words, plaintiff has suffered general damages to his reputation in the sum of \$10,000,000.
- 74. As a further proximate result of the above described words, plaintiff has suffered the following special damages:
- (a) Defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin have failed and refused, and continue to fail and refuse to pay the sum of \$807,374 due and owing for coins sold to said defendants by plaintiff;
- (b) Defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin have failed and refused, and continue to fail and refuse to pay the sum of 16 \$84,310 due and owing for coins sold to said defendants by plaintiff;
 - (c) Plaintiff has been unable to engage in plaintiff's business, trade and profession, because no one in the coin business will buy from or sell to plaintiff. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that the total cessation of his business from and after July 20, 1988 is directly attributable to the allegations made against him as hereinabove set forth and his entire business has ceased, all to his injury in the sum of \$10,000,000.
 - 75. The above described words were spoken by defendant Hall and with malice, oppression and a reckless disregard for plaintiff's rights. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and

thereon alleges, that he has been made a scapegoat by defendants in order to establish a focus of blame and to shift the attention from PCGS' internal errors which, if known to the community of coin traders, would adversely affect the marketplace since it would become difficult to rely upon the grading of PCGS to determine the value of a coin. By reason of such intentional, malicious and oppressive acts of the defendants and each of them, plaintiff is entitled to an award of exemplary and punitive damages in the amount of \$10,000,000.

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COUNT SIX

(For Intentional Infliction Of Emotional Distress Against Defendants Hall, PCGS, Ivy, Halperin, Heritage, And Does 1 Through 10, Inclusive)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 75 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 77. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that in doing the acts hereinabove alleged, defendants intended to cause plaintiff great emotional distress. As a proximate result of the acts of defendants, and each of them as hereinabove described, plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain emotional distress 22 and mental suffering, not limited to sleepless nights, anxiety, 23 nightmares and eating disorders, all to plaintiff's general damages 24 in an amount not yet ascertained. Plaintiff will seek leave of this court to amend this complaint when same are ascertained.
- 78. As a further direct and proximate result of said 27 conduct, plaintiff will incur medical and incidental expenses 28 relating to the distress, the exact amount not yet ascert. and and

plaintiff will seek leave of this court to amend this complaint when same are ascertained.

79. By reason of the intentional acts of defendants, defendants, and each of them, acting with malice and oppression, designed to cause plaintiff mental and emotional distress.

Defendants, and each of them, are liable to plaintiff for exemplary and punitive damages in the sum of \$10,000,000.

COUNT SEVEN

(For Negligent Infliction Of Emotional Distress)

- 80. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 79 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 81. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that each and all of the representations hereinabove set forth were made by defendants, and each of them, without any justification or fact, or without any knowledge, information or evidence to support any of the defendants' claims as alleged in Paragraph 21, herein. As a direct and proximate result of the recklessness of the defendants, and each of them, in making the allegations as set forth in Paragraph 53, 53(a), 53(b), 53(c) and in making said allegations without any factual basis therefore, defendants and each of them were grossly negligent.
- 82. As a direct and proximate result of the recklessness of the conduct of defendants and each of them plaintiff has sustained damage to his reputation in the business community, has sustained monetary damages in a sum in excess of approximately \$900,000 and has sustained severe anguish and anxiety, mental and emotional distress, discomfort, pain and suffering, all to his general

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damages in a sum to be ascertained at the time of trial. Plaintiff will ask leave of the court to amend this complaint to set forth the same when ascertained.

83. As a direct and proximate result of the actions of the defendants, and each of them, plaintiff is informed and thereon alleges that he will sustain medical and incidental expenses relating to and in connection with the emotional distress herein alleged, in an amount not yet fully ascertained, and plaintiff will ask leave of the court to amend this complaint to set forth the amount of special and incidental damages sustained, including but not limited to those for medical practitioners when same are ascertained.

COUNT EIGHT

(For Conversion Against Defendants

Ivy, Halperin, Heritage, Hall And PCGS)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 83 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges 85. that on or about July 22, 1988, defendants Ivy and Halperin, for and on behalf of defendant Heritage did convey, transfer and deliver to David Hall and PCGS each and every item of personal property described upon Exhibit "A" hereof, attached hereto and incorporated hereat by this reference having a value of \$807,378 and other coins referred to in Paragraph hereof having a value of \$84,310.
- 86. Plaintiff alleges that said items, having not been paid 28 for, are the personal property of plaintiff.

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- Demand for the immediate return of plaintiff's property 87. has been made upon defendants Hall, PCGS, Ivy, Halperin and Heritage, and said defendants, each and all, have refused to return said items, but have converted same to their own use and benefit, in derogation of plaintiff's rights thereto.
- As a direct and proximate result of the conversion of said items of personal property, plaintiff has been deprived of the use and benefit of same, and defendants, and each of them, have been unjustly enriched by the use and benefit of same, all to plaintiff's damages in the sum of \$891,688.

COUNT NINE

(For Claim And Delivery Against Heritage, Ivy, Halperin, Hall And PCGS)

- 89. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 88 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 90. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that, in the absence of payment for personal property identified and listed on Exhibit "A" hereof, having a value of \$807,378 and as described in Paragraph 18 j hereof and incorporated hereat by this reference, having a value of \$84,310, plaintiff is the true and only owner of said items.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that defendants PCGS, Hall, Heritage, Ivy and/or Halperin, and Does 11 through 20, inclusive, claim an interest in and title to said 26 items of personal property adverse to the claims of plaintiff.
- Plaintiff has demanded return of the personal property 92. 28 from defendants named herein, and defendants have failed and

refused, and continue to fail and refuse to deliver to plaintiff said items.

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COUNT TEN

(For Goods Sold And Delivered)

- 93. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 92 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 94. Within two years and before July 14, 1988, defendant
 Heritage as the alter ego of defendants Steven Ivy and James
 Halperin, became indebted to plaintiff for goods sold and delivered
 by plaintiff to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, who then and
 there agreed to pay the sum of \$84,310 for said goods.
- 95. Neither the whole nor any part of the above sum has been paid although demand therefore has been made and there is now due, owing and unpaid from defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin to plaintiff the sum of \$84,310, together with interest thereon at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 1, 1988.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as follows:

- For general damages according to proof;
- For special damages according to proof;
- For punitive damages according to proof;
- 4. For the immediate return of plaintiff's personal property;
- 5. For attorney's fees incurred in connection with the recovery of said personal property;
 - 6. For costs of suit incurred herein; and
 - 7. For such other and further relief as the court may deem

1	just and proper.
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3	DATED: January 5, 1989 KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS
4	70171
5	ROBERT M. ROSS
ô	Attorneys for Plaintiff Gary Fernandez
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9	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
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11	Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.
12	DATED: January 5, 1989 KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS
13	By Tobert M Toss
14	ROBERT M. ROSS Attorneys for Plaintiff
15	Gary Fernandez
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NITED STATES DISTRICT COUL CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

CIVIL MINUTES — GENERAL

Case NoCV	SA88-556-JSL	Jan. 23, 1989 Date
Cary i	ry Fernandez -v- David Hall, etc	C.
DOCKET ENTRY	Y	See Section 1. Control of the contro
PRESENT:		
HON.	J. SPENCER LETTS	, JUDGE
	Nancy J. Webb Deputy Clerk	Terry Kramer Court Reporter
ATTORNEYS PR	RESENT FOR PLAINTIFFS:	ATTORNEYS PRESENT FOR DEFENDANTS:
		Robert Ross
PROCEEDINGS:	HEARING: Defendants Hall & motion to dismiss	& Professional Coin Grading's
	Counsel make statements to	the Court.
	The Court takes the matter	under submission and will rule

Initials of Deputy Clerk

within a week.



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

GARY FERNANDEZ,

Case No. CV 88-556 JSL

Plaintiff,

٧,

DAVID HALL, PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE, a California corporation; and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive,

Defendants.

ORDER

Pursuant to F.R.Civ.P 42(b), and to the discretion vested in this court thereunder, this court by its own motion orders that those claims brought against defendants in the instant action pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961-68 (the RICO Act) are hereby stayed, and that a separate trial is forthwith ordered for purposes of adjudicating the remaining and pendent state law claims averred by plaintiff, which claims may or may not constitute predicate acts under 18 U.S.C. § 1961(1), and all counter-claims filed by defendants against plaintiff in the above-captioned matter.

The court notes its concern that the entanglement of the relevant issues in the RICO and non-RICO claims will

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render the task of the fact-finder, which by plaintiff's demand will be a jury, unduly confusing and cumbersome. In turn, the court finds that separating the RICO claims from the state law claims and the counterclaims filed by defendants for purposes of trial is in the interest of efficient judicial administration, will promote the expeditious and economic resolution of the above-captioned matter, and will further the convenience of and thereby not prejudice the parties.

In order to insure that the pendent state claims and defendants' counter-claims are tried expeditiously, and pursuant to the discretion vested in this court by F.R.Civ.P. 16, this court also orders that the pre-trial conference in this case is hereby waived, and that the matter will be set for trial at the earliest date otherwise permitted by the Local Rules and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. For counsel's refernce, Attachment A to this Order sets forth the schedule this court expects that parties will follow with respect to the separated trial.

The court also orders that the defendants motions to dismiss the complaint are hereby denied without prejudice. Defendants may renew these motions at the conclusion of the separate trial on the pendent state law claims.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: Feb. 7 , 1989

J. Spencer Letts

United States District Judge

ATTACHMENT A Answer to Second Amended Complaint 2 ! Within 20 days of and Defendant's Counter-Claims Due: this Order 3 Within 20 days of Answers Early Meeting of Counsel: 4 Within 14 days of Early Meeting Early Meeting Report Due: 5 of Counsel Pre-Trial Meeting Between Counsel: Day After Early Meeting 6 Report Due 7 14 Days Prior to Submit Local Rule 9.11.2 Statement: 8 Trial 9 7 days prior to Trial Date Submit Jury Instructions: 10 5 days prior to Trial Submit Trial Brief/Exhibit List: Date 11 30 days after Pre-Trial Meeting of Counsel Trial Date: 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

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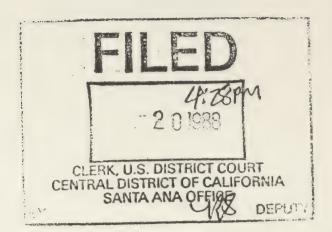
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(714) 540-1235

Attorneys for Defendants David Hall and Professional Coin Grading Service



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

GARY FERNANDEZ,

Plaintiff,

Vs.

DEFEN

PROFE

DAVID HALL; PROFESSIONAL COIN)
GRADING SERVICE, a California)
corporation; STEVEN IVY; JAMES)
HALPERIN; HERITAGE CAPITAL)
CORPORATION, a Texas ()
corporation; and DOES 1 through)
20, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. SA CV88-556 JSL (RWRx)

JOINT MEMORANDUM OF
DEFENDANTS DAVID HALL AND
PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING
SERVICE IN SUPPORT OF MOTION
TO DISMISS COMPLAINT; MOTION
TO STRIKE AND FOR RULE 11
SANCTIONS

Date: November 14, 1988

Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: Courtroom 2



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INTRODUCTION

On September 26, 1988 plaintiff filed a Complaint in this Court alleging, in Count One, violations of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961-1968 ("RICO"). Counts Two through Nine assert pendent state claims, including claims for goods sold and delivered, breach of oral contract and claim and delivery.

This memorandum and the accompanying Request for Judicial Notice are submitted by defendants David Hall ("Hall") and Professional Coin Grading Service ("PCGS") in support of their motion under Federal Rule 12(b)(6) to dismiss Count One of the Complaint for failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted. Once Count One is dismissed, the pendent state claims should also be dismissed, without prejudice to plaintiff's right to institute action in state court. In the event that Count One is not dismissed, defendants Hall and PCGS move to strike paragraph 27 thereof seeking equitable relief.

Plaintiff, a rare coin dealer, has turned what was and is essentially a collection action, arising out of the sale of rare coins to defendant Heritage Capital Corporation ("Heritage"), into an alleged violation of the RICO Act, with predictable allegations of racketeering and fraud. Because this is, in fact, a collection action, plaintiff is able to plead only the allegations concerning goods sold and delivered with any particularity. All other allegations are vague, conclusionary, inadequate and unfounded.

On August 4, 1988, plaintiff filed a complaint in Orange County Superior Court against the present defendants, arising out of the same general circumstances as are alleged in the pendent state claims, and claiming essentially the same relief as in the pendent state claims. Before service of the complaint on Hall and PCGS, plaintiff voluntarily dismissed his complaint without prejudice, and instituted this action in this Court. The earlier complaint remains significant, however, because it confirms the proper characterization of this case as a collection action, and because it reveals the extent to which plaintiff has been prepared to elaborate, on information and belief, on the allegations in that case in an attempt to force his claims within the RICO statute. (The state court complaint is attached to the Request for Judicial Notice which is filed concurrently herewith.)

Plaintiff's hidden agenda in filing a RICO claim emerges from the matters alleged in his slander claim against all defendants (Count Five of the pendent state claims, and Third Cause of Action in his dismissed state court complaint). Fearing himself implicated in a fraudulent scheme involving tampering with PCGS coin holders, substitution of coins and altering of coin grades, and under investigation by federal authorities in connection therewith, plaintiff appears to have decided that the best form of defense is attack. This he has done without any regard for the prejudicial effect his unfounded and unsubstantiated allegations of fraud and racketeering will, and have, necessarily had on defendants.

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SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT

Plaintiff's RICO allegations appear to be based upon five, perhaps six, alleged "racketeering acts." (Because of a complete lack of particularity, it is not possible to determine whether the violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 471, 472 and 473 alleged in paragraph 17(a) of the Complaint are the same violations alleged in paragraph 23(a) thereof). The only alleged act of racketeering stated with any particularity relates to plaintiff's "goods sold and delivered" allegations. Complaint, ¶ 17(c). That alleged racketeering act, however ("theft by fraud"), is not one of the criminal activities enumerated in 18 U.S.C. § 1961(1), (nor does it constitute a violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1951, as alleged in paragraph 17(c) of the Complaint, which deals with "interference with commerce by threats or violence"). All other alleged racketeering acts are either not "racketeering acts" as defined by § 1961(1), or are devoid of the particularity required by Rule 9(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure ("Rule 9(b)") and by the pleading standards applicable to RICO claims generally.

The alleged racketeering acts, even if adequately pleaded, do not establish a pattern of racketeering activity, because they relate to a single alleged fraud and there was and is no threat of continuing activity.

If Count One is not dismissed, defendants Hall and PCGS move to strike ¶ 27 of the Complaint, on the grounds that private equitable relief is not available to a private plaintiff in a RICO claim.

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THE RICO CLAIM IS DEFICIENT AS A MATTER

OF LAW AND SHOULD BE DISMISSED

Plaintiff's first claim for relief alleges violations of the RICO act. It can be surmised, although no appropriate allegation is made in the Complaint, that plaintiff's claim is brought under Sections 1962(b) and/or (c) and/or (d) of that act. Each of these RICO subsections requires that the defendants engage in a "pattern of racketeering activity." Such a pattern is defined in the statute as requiring at least two "acts of racketeering activity." The acts ("predicate acts") constituting "racketeering activity" are those enumerated in Section 1961(1). At least two predicate acts constituting crimes of the type enumerated in § 1961(1) must be alleged against each defendant named in a RICO count in order to even suggest the existence of a pattern of racketeering activity under RICO. Blake v. Dierdorff, 88 Daily Journal D.A.R. 11603 (9th Cir., Sept. 8, 1988). While plaintiff's Complaint at pages 4-9 contains a lengthy recitation of certain alleged conduct, most of the alleged conduct either does not constitute a predicate act at all $\frac{1}{2}$, or is not directed against certain defendants. The pattern requirement must be satisfied separately as to each defendant and mere conclusionary allegations of conspiracy are insufficient. Blake v. Dierdorff, supra, at 11606.

^{1.} For example, "theft by fraud" alleged in $\P\P$ 17(c), 20, and 24 of the Complaint.

In sum and substance, the allegations against defendants Hall and PCGS upon which the RICO claim is founded are the following:

- (a) An allegation of a conspiracy between Hall, defendant Steven Ivy ("Ivy") and defendant James Halperin ("Halperin"). Complaint, ¶ 16.
- (b) An allegation that Hall "violated 18 U.S.C. Sections 471, 472 and 473 relating to counterfeiting." Complaint, \P 17(a). (See, also, \P 23(a).)
- (c) An allegation that Hall "act[ed] in association and conspiracy" with Ivy and Halperin with "inten[t] to acquire, without payment therefore, all of plaintiff's coin inventory for the purpose of putting plaintiff out of business, in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1952." Complaint, ¶ 17(d)(i).
- (d) An allegation that "after taking possession of plaintiff's coins, defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin violated 18 U.S.C. Sections 2314 and 2315 by transporting said stolen property from Ohio to the State of New York." Complaint, ¶ 17(e). (See, also, ¶ 22.)
- (e) An allegation that "for the purpose of injuring plaintiff and his business," Hall and/or PCGS (from the Complaint it is not clear which) "publish[ed] and advise[d] through interstate wire media . . . that plaintiff is a counterfeiter . . . " Complaint, ¶ 21.
- (f) An allegation that Hall "engag[ed] in acts of mail and wire fraud for and in connection with the seeking of an appraisal by PCGS's competitor of said counterfeit currency or

(g) An allegation that PCGS is liable for Hall's actions on the principle of <u>respondent superior</u>. Complaint, ¶ 26.

As will be demonstrated hereunder, the above allegations either are not allegations of a predicate act, or are not stated with the particularity required by Rule 9(b) or by the standards applicable to RICO claims generally. The allegations that remain are insufficient to establish a pattern of racketeering activity as defined in 18 U.S.C. §1961(5).

A. Plaintiff's RICO claim fails to allege facts, including fraud, with the requisite degree of specificity.

of the allegations relied upon by plaintiff to establish racketeering activity (identified in subparagraphs (a)-(g) above), only three ((b) counterfeiting, (d) interstate transportation of stolen property and (f) mail and wire fraud) can, if adequately stated, be considered to determine whether a "pattern of racketeering activity" has been sufficiently alleged. None of the other conduct alleged constitutes "racketeering activity" as defined in 18 U.S.C. §1961(1).

The allegations that <u>do</u> carry some hint of "racketeering activity" (counterfeiting, interstate transportation of stolen property and mail and wire fraud) are not stated with the particularity required. Counterfeiting, mail fraud and wire fraud necessarily involve allegations of fraud. Rule 9(b) requires that, in a pleading alleging fraud,

". . . the circumstances constituting fraud . . . shall be stated with particularity." The purpose of Rule 9(b) is to protect defendants from unfounded charges of wrongdoing which tend to injure their reputation and goodwill. This policy reason, plus the additional damage that is done to one's career by being branded a "racketeer" in a RICO claim, has led courts rigorously to apply Rule 9(b) to fraud claims in the RICO context, and to apply a more rigorous pleading standard to RICO claims generally. As stated by the Court in Schnitzer v.

Oppenheimer & Co., 633 F. Supp. 92, 97 (D. Ore. 1985):

". . . I agree that a RICO plaintiff must meet a higher pleading standard than that imposed on an ordinary plaintiff. RICO's in terrorem effect is potent, in that a RICO defendant faces the unsavory label "racketeer" as well as the risk of treble damages. In many cases, the RICO defendant may be guilty of no more than negligence, yet his reputation for honesty is at great risk. Because a RICO claim threatens the same kind of harm to a professional reputation as a fraud claim, a RICO plaintiff should plead facts constituting the predicate offenses with the particularity required by Rule 9(b). requirement is especially appropriate where, as here, the predicate offenses alleged in the Complaint were acts of fraud."

The same is true in this case, and the Court should not permit business reputations to be ruined by sweeping allegations of fraud and other criminal conduct which are not stated with particularity.

As interpreted by the Ninth Circuit, Rule 9(b) means that "the pleader must state the time, place and specific content of the false representations as well as the identities of the parties to the misrepresentation." Misc. Service Workers v. Philoo-Ford Corp., 661 F.2d 776, 782 (9th Cir. 1981); Schreiber Distributing v. Serv-Well Furniture Co., 806 F.2d 1393, 1400-1 (9th Cir. 1986). If plaintiffs fail to allege the "manner, content or medium of the alleged misrepresentations," then the Complaint should be dismissed. Misc. Service Workers, supra, 661 F.2d at 782. Further, where, as here, there are fraud allegations against multiple defendants, the pleader must satisfy Rule 9(b) with respect to each defendant, and "blanket" allegations are insufficient. McFarland v. Memorex, 493 F. Supp. 631, 639 (N.D. Cal. 1980); Bruns v. Ledbetter, 583 F. Supp. 1050, 1051-2 (S.D. Cal. 1984).

Rule 9(b) requires a plaintiff to have a claim before filing the complaint, not to use the complaint as a pretext to try and discover a claim. See, Semegen v. Weidner, 780 F.2d 727 (9th Cir., 1985) ("[Rule 9(b)] also prevents the filing of a complaint as a pretext for the discovery of unknown wrongs and protects potential defendants - especially professionals whose reputations in their fields of expertise are most sensitive to slander - from the harm that comes from being charged with the commission of fraudulent acts.")

The predicate acts alleged by plaintiff lack any particularity. It is alleged against Hall simply that "within ten years last past, plaintiff is <u>informed and believes</u> that defendant Hall violated 18 U.S.C. Sections 471, 472, and 473 relating to counterfeiting." Complaint, ¶ 17(b).2/ (Emphasis added.) There is not even lip-service adherence to Rule 9(b) in this allegation. The allegation concerning mail and wire fraud is equally bald, stating only, again on information and belief, that Hall engaged "in acts of mail and wire fraud for and in connection with the seeking of an appraisal by PCGS' competitor of said counterfeit currency or coins, in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1951." Complaint, ¶ 23(b). The allegation as stated is difficult to understand, in addition to being devoid of particularity.

It is generally not permissible to base fraud pleadings on information and belief. Stern v. Leucadia Nat.

Corp., 844 F.2d 997, 1003 (2d Cir. 1988). In circumstances where fraud allegations may be pleaded on information and belief as to facts peculiarly within the opposing party's knowledge, "the allegations must be accompanied by a statement of facts upon which the belief is founded." Stern v. Leucadia Nat.

Corp., supra, 844 F.2d at 1003. Accord, Bruns v. Ledbetter, 583 F. Supp. 1050, 1052 (S.D. Cal. 1984).

In the present matter, <u>all</u> the "acts of racketeering" alleged by plaintiff in $\P\P$ 17 and 23 of the Complaint, including

^{2.} In similar fashion, ¶ 23(a) of the Complaint simply alleges, on information and belief, that Hall "[put] into interstate commerce counterfeit currency or coins as prohibited by 18 U.S.C. Sections 471, 472 and 473."

those involving fraud, are alleged on information and belief.

The allegations lack particularity both as to the alleged acts themselves and as to "any statement of the source of the information and the reasons upon which the belief is founded."

Bruns v. Ledbetter, supra, 583 F. Supp. at 1052.

The last of the allegations faintly indicative of a predicate act is that relating to interstate transportation of stolen property. Complaint, ¶ 17(e). While providing more information than the allegations discussed earlier, the information is not sufficient to meet the particularity requirements for a RICO claim. Schnitzer v. Oppenheimer & Co., supra, 633 F. Supp. at 97. In any event, just one act, even if sufficiently pleaded, cannot stand alone to found a RICO claim (18 U.S.C. § 1961(5)), and Count One should accordingly be dismissed.

B. <u>Plaintiffs fail to allege a pattern of racketeering</u> activity.

Even if it is found, contrary to defendants' contentions, that plaintiff has alleged two or more acts of racketeering with particularity, the acts alleged do not establish a "pattern" of racketeering activity, as is required by 18 U.S.C. § 1962. In Sedima, S.P.R.L. v. Imrex Co., 473 U.S. 479 (1985), the Supreme Court, in dicta, stated that while two predicate acts are necessary to find a pattern, they may not be sufficient. Id. at 486, n. 14. The Court continued, "It is [the] factor of continuity plus relationship which combines to produce a pattern." Id. The Ninth Circuit has held the "continuity plus relationship" dictum to be a relevant

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consideration in determining the existence of a pattern.

Medallion Television Enterprises, Inc. v. SelectTV of

California, Inc., 833 F.2d 1360, 1363 (9th Cir. 1987), citing

Sun Sav. and Loan Ass'n v. Dierdorff, 825 F.2d 187, 192 (9th

Cir. 1987). The presence or absence of continuity among the

acts is often the determinative factor in finding the existence

of a pattern. "Continuity will be found where the predicate

acts are not isolated or sporadic, but rather pose a threat of

continuing activity." Windswept Corp. v. Fisher, 683 F. Supp.

233, 237 (W.D. Wash. 1988), citing The United Energy Owners

Com., Inc. v. U.S. Mgmt. Systems, Inc., 837 F.2d 356, 361 (9th

Cir. 1988).

In <u>Windswept</u>, the predicate acts consisted of misrepresentations in the course of plaintiff's purchase of defendant's corporation. The court found that since the sale had been closed and the potential for fraud had ended, there was no threat of continuing activity. The court cautioned, "If the fraud alleged here constitutes a pattern of racketeering activity, every securities case or fraud case could be pleaded as a RICO case." <u>Windswept</u>, 683 F. Supp. at 238.

The facts in <u>Schreiber</u> and <u>Medallion</u> are even more instructive for present purposes. In <u>Schreiber</u>, <u>supra</u>, 806 F.2d 1393 (9th Cir. 1986) plaintiff's allegations concerned the fraudulent diversion of a single shipment of products. Having found that plaintiff had established a "showing of a relationship" and a "pattern" (consisting of at least two acts that are sufficiently related), (<u>id.</u> at 1399), the Court nevertheless held that:

"Schreiber's allegations did not establish, however, the threat of continuing activity.

Sedima, 105 S. Ct. at 3285 n. 14. The complaint alleged the fraudulent diversion of a single shipment of Chambers' products in 1982. This appears to be an isolated event. See id. Because of the failure to allege facts establishing the threat of continuing activity, Schreiber's complaint did not meet the requirement of a showing of continuity plus relationship which combines to produce a pattern. Id. The RICO counts were properly dismissed for failure to state a claim on this ground."

Id. at 1399.

In <u>Medallion</u>, <u>supra</u>, 833 F.2d 1360 (9th Cir. 1987) the facts as alleged disclosed a single alleged fraud with a single victim. In affirming the decision of the court below, the Court held as follows:

"The presence or absence of continuity among the acts is the distinguishing factor in our cases and is the factor that most influences our decision in this case. Continuity does not require a showing that the defendants engaged in more than one "scheme" or "criminal episode". (Citations omitted.)

The circumstances of the case, however, must suggest that the predicate acts are

indicative of a threat of continuing activity. (Citations omitted.) Here, that threat is absent. This case involved but a single alleged fraud with a single victim.

All of SelecTV's assertions about the number of licensing agreements it had obtained were parts of its single effort to induce

Medallion to form the joint venture. . . .

In essence, Medallion's allegations concern a single fraudulent inducement to enter a contract. Once the joint venture had acquired the broadcast rights, the fraud, if indeed it was a fraud, was complete. Id. at 1363-4.

The court concluded that:

"If the fraud alleged here constitutes a pattern of racketeering activity, rare would be the fraud that could not be pleaded as a RICO case. Although we observe <u>Sedima's</u> mandate that RICO be construed broadly (citation omitted) we cannot believe that Congress intended that RICO should apply to a single, isolated transaction such as this. <u>Id.</u> at 1365.

In the present matter, the allegations of Count One, even taken as true, fail to establish a threat of continuing activity by any defendant at any time. The acts of racketeering allegedly directed at, or affecting, plaintiff are all related

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to one transaction, the "theft by fraud" alleged in ¶ 17 (c) of the complaint. Apart from the fact that the alleged "theft by fraud" is not an act proscribed by 18 U.S.C. § 1961(1), it does not carry with it any threat of continuing activity, nor is any such threat alleged. That this is in fact a completed, "single, isolated transaction" (Medallion, supra, at 1365) is clearly demonstrated not only by the allegations in the Complaint, read as a whole, but more particularly by the fact that the "injunctive or other equitable order" sought by plaintiff relates solely to the return of the coins allegedly sold to Heritage. Complaint, ¶ 27. Plaintiff does not seek to enjoin any conduct on the part of defendants, nor is any continuing activity by them alleged. Count One must be dismissed.

IV

THE PENDENT STATE CLAIMS SHOULD BE DISMISSED

In the event that Count One is dismissed, the pendent state claims alleged in Counts Two through Nine should also be dismissed. The dismissal of pendent state claims is particularly appropriate where, as here, all federal claims are dismissed prior to trial. <u>Jason v. Fonda</u>, 698 F.2d 966, 967 (9th Cir. 1983); <u>United Mineworkers v. Gibbs</u>, 383 U.S. 715, 726-27 (1966). On dismissal of the RICO claim, only state claims and issues remain and fairness to the defendants dictates that they be entitled to have those claims and issues adjudicated in state court.

MOTION TO STRIKE

In the event that Count One is not dismissed, defendants Hall and PCGS move to strike ¶ 27 of plaintiff's complaint, which seeks private equitable relief.

Federal Rule 12(f) empowers the Court to order stricken from any pleading "any insufficient defense or any redundant, immaterial, impertinent, or scandalous matter." Motions to strike "requests for certain types of relief, such as punitive or compensatory damages, are generally granted where such relief is not recoverable under the applicable law." 2A J.W. Moore and J. Lucas, Moore's Federal Practice, ¶ 12.21 (2nd Ed. 1987).

The Ninth Circuit has determined that private equitable relief is not available to a private party in a civil RICO action. See, Religious Technology Center v. Wollersheim, 796 F.2d 1076, 1088-1089 (9th Cir. 1986); Republic of the Philippines v. Marcos, 818 F.2d 1473, 1479 (9th Cir. 1987). Accordingly, paragraph 27 of the complaint, which seeks equitable relief, should be stricken.

VI

MOTION FOR SANCTIONS

The true motivation of plaintiff in asserting a RICO claim against defendants emerges from the matters alleged in Count Five of his complaint (and the Third Cause of Action of his dismissed state court complaint), which alleges slander against all defendants. Fearing himself implicated in a fraudulent scheme wherein PCGS coin holders have been tampered

with, and counterfeit coins substituted or coin grades altered, and under investigation by federal authorities in connection therewith, plaintiff appears to have decided that the best form of defense is attack. When the complaint filed in state court failed to intimidate Hall or PCGS, or any of the defendants, plaintiff threatened to and did institute action in this court, labeling all of the defendants as racketeers and criminals, and seeking treble damages.

Plaintiff's inability to plead any allegations in his RICO claim, except those relating to the sale of coins to Heritage, with specificity, is ample evidence of the utter lack of foundation which those other allegations have. The "acts of racketeering" enumerated in ¶¶ 17 and 23 of the Complaint are alleged "on information and belief", without even an attempt to state the facts upon which the belief is based. Neither plaintiff nor his attorney can be heard to say that the pleading requirements of Rule 9(b) were not known to them. Whatever excuses the complexity of the RICO statute may afford to a plaintiff asserting a RICO claim, none of these excuses apply to the overriding application of Rule 9(b). Allegations of fraud and racketeering are calculated to do tremendous harm to business and personal reputations, as has been the case in the present matter.

Mandatory sanctions for lack of candor and failure to make reasonable prefiling factual and legal inquiry.

Pursuant to Rule 11, an attorney who signs a "pleading, motion or other paper" in federal court warrants "that it is well grounded in fact, that it is warranted by

existing law or a good faith argument for an extension, modification or reversal of existing law, and that it is not filed for an improper purpose." Id. Far from presenting a close question of a Rule 11 violation, it is clear that plaintiff and his attorneys, in filing the RICO claim in this case, have been content to elevate unfounded and uninvestigated rumors or suspicions into allegations of fact.

Prior to its 1983 amendment, Rule 11 was interpreted to require subjective bad faith by the signing attorney to warrant the imposition of sanctions. Golden Eagle Distributing Corp. v. Burroughs Corp., 801 F.2d 1531, 1536 (9th Cir. 1986). The text of the present Rule, however, represents an intentional abandonment of the subjective focus of its predecessor in favor of an objective one. Id. The attorney's certificate of good faith now tests the knowledge of the signing attorney by a "reasonableness under the circumstances" standard. Id. counsel can no longer avoid the sting of Rule 11 sanctions "by operating under the guise of a pure heart and empty head." Zuinga v. United Can Co., 812 F.2d 443, 452 (9th Cir. 1987). Rule 11 now requires that sanctions "shall be assessed if the paper filed in the district court and signed by an attorney or unrepresented party is frivolous, unreasonable, or without factual foundation, even though the paper was not filed in subjective bad faith." Golden Eagle, supra, 801 F.2d at 1838 (emphasis added). Rule 11 "stresses the need for some prefiling inquiry into both the facts and the law to satisfy the affirmative duty imposed by the Rule." Advisory Committee Note on Rule 11. Sanctions are mandatory if a violation has

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occurred. Unioil, Inc. v. E. F. Hutton & Co., 809 F.2d 548, 559 (9th Cir.), Cert. denied, 108 S. Ct. 83 (1987). Rule 11 is intended to be applied "vigorously" by district courts to curb the abuse of frivolous pleadings. Hurd v. Ralphs Grocery Co., 824 F.2d 806, 808 (9th Cir. 1987).

The rationale for requiring a reasonable amount of preliminary factual investigation is obvious, and applies equally in this case:

"This rule aims . . . to prevent situations in which all parties incur unnecessary costs in litigating a claim which a modicum of investigation would have avoided. Obviously a preliminary inquiry into facts which may not support a claim imposes some costs of investigation which a potential plaintiff may never recover at law. The alternative procedure as practiced by Plaintiff here, imposes costs on all parties (and the judicial system) which greatly exceed the expense of a reasonable inquiry prior to suit. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11 specifically aims at preventing the costs attendant upon a 'sue now, inquire later' mentality."

Foster v. Michelin Tire Corp., 108 F.R.D. 412, 414-415 (C.D. Ill. 1985)

The complete lack of specificity as to any conduct of the defendants not directly related to the sale of coins by

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plaintiff to Heritage amply demonstrates the complete lack of any meaningful investigation before filing of the Complaint.

The RICO claim has been brought in a patent attempt to intimidate defendants, with allegations of fraud and racketeering and the threat of treble damages, in order to divert attention from plaintiff. It has impugned the integrity of Hall and PCGS (as well as the other defendants) when there were no grounds whatsoever for doing so, and in these circumstances the Court should sanction plaintiff by awarding defendants Hall and PCGS their attorneys' fees and costs in defending this factually and legally frivolous claim.

VII

CONCLUSION

It is clear that plaintiff's RICO claim is deficient, and should be dismissed. Once that claim is dismissed, the court should exercise its discretion to dismiss the pendent state claims. In addition, the court should levy Rule 11 sanctions against plaintiff.

By:

DATED: October 20, 1988

LATHAM & WATKINS

Peter J. Wilson

Attorneys for Defendants
David Hall and Professional

Coin Grading Service

01387:OCD00201.

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I am employed in the County of Orange, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is that of Latham & Watkins as set forth on the first page of the document to which this Proof is attached.

I served the below listed document(s) described as:

Joint Memorandum of Points and Authorities and Request for Judicial Notice

on October 20, 1988 on all other parties to this action by placing a [xx] true copy [] original of the above document enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:

William J. Reifman, Esq. Mayer, Brown & Platt 355 S. Grand Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90071

Robert M. Ross Klass, Helman & Ross 10850 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500 Los Angeles, CA 90024

[xx] I placed such envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid for deposit in the United States mail in accordance with the office practice of Latham & Watkins for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. I am familiar with the office practice of Latham & Watkins for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service, which practice is that when correspondence is deposited with the Latham & Watkins personnel responsible for delivering correspondence to the United States Postal Service, such correspondence is delivered to the United States Postal Service that same day in the ordinary course of business.

Executed on October 20, 1988, at Costa Mesa, California.

[] (State) I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct.

[xxx] (Federal) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made.

Sandra L. McNeff

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CLEBK COMMITTED TO THE CENTRAL DISTRICT CENTRAL DISTRICT CENTRAL DEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Gary Fernandez

Plaintiff,

VS.

David Hall, Ctal

Defendant

civil No. CVSA88-556 JSL

ORDER

This case has been assigned to Judge J. Spencer Letts. IT

IS HEREBY ORDERED that all counsel in this action shall

personally appear for an initial, informal conference at 3:30 f.M

Notember 21,1988, in Courtroom 2, of the United States

Courthouse, 751 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, Ca. This

conference is in addition to and not in lieu of meetings or

conferences required by Local Rules or by further order of this

Court.

in addition to counsel shall attend the initial conference.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.

Party representatives need not have any settlement authority.

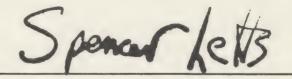
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Each party will be expected, however, to have arrived at a responsible estimate of what it would take to settle or dispose of the case that day, without further factual development.

Counsel will be deemed responsible for client attendance. Each client or representative shall have received a copy of this order prior to the conference, and will be expected to have read and understood it.

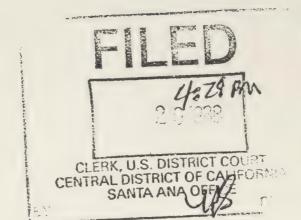
At the initial conference, counsel should be prepared to discuss, on a preliminary basis, most or all of the subject specified in Local Rules 6.4.2 and 9, and in Fed.R.Civ.P. 16(c). The discussion will be based upon information available at the time of the conference. Extensive preparation should not be required. Counsel will be expected, however, to engage in serious discussion of the case, as it stands. The Court will not expect either party or counsel to attempt to evade discussion entirely on the basis that "too little is known."

If it appears desirable, the Court will ask permission of the parties to engage in such discussion confidentially and exparte. The initial conference will last approximately 30-45 mun



J. SPENCER LETTS
United States District Judge

LATHAM & WATKINS 1 Robert E. Currie Peter J. Wilson 2 650 Town Center Drive, 20th Floor Costa Mesa, California 92626 3 (714) 540-1235 4



Attorneys for Defendants David Hall and Professional Coin Grading Service

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GARY FERNANDEZ,

v.

Plaintiff,

DAVID HALL; PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE, a California corporation; STEVEN IVY; JAMES HALPERIN; HERITAGE CAPITAL) CORPORATION, a Texas corporation;) and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive,)

Defendants.

Case No. CV 88-556 JSL(RWRX)

REQUEST TO TAKE JUDICIAL NOTICE IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS AND FOR SANCTIONS

November 14, 1988 Date:

Time: 1:00 p.m. Place: Courtroom 2

Pursuant to Rule 201 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, Defendants David Hall and Professional Coin Grading Service hereby request the Court to take judicial notice of the Complaint filed in Orange County Superior Court under Case No. 564410, a conformed copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit The basis for judicial notice is that in a Motion to Dismiss, the Court may take judicial notice of matters of public record outside the pleadings. Rule 201 of the Federal Rules of Evidence; MGIC Indemnity Corp. v. Weisman, 803 F. 2d 500, 504 (9th Cir. 1986); Mack v. Southbay Beer Distributor, 798 F. 2d

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ATHAM & WATKINS TTORNEYS AT LAW COSTA MESA

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1	1279, 1282 (9th Cir. 1986).
2	DATED: October 20, 1988
3	LATHAM & WATKINS Peter Wilson
4	By: Teter J. Wilson
5	Attorneys for Defendants DAVID HALL and
6	PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE
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ATHAM & WATKINS TTORNEYS AT LAW COSTA MESA

KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS 10850 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500 Los Angeles, California 90024 213/277-2224 AUG 04 1988 4 Attorneys for Plaintiff Gary Fernandez BARY L. GRANVILLE, County Clerk 5 6 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE 10 Case No. 564410 11 GARY FERNANDEZ, 12 Plaintiff, COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES FOR GOODS SOLD AND DELIVERED; 13 BREACH OF ORAL CONTRACT; SLANDER; INTENTIONAL INFLICTION 14 DAVID HALL; PROFESSIONAL COIN OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS: GRADING SERVICE, a California NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF 15 corporation; STEVEN IVY; EMOTIONAL DISTRESS; CONVERSION; JAMES HALPERIN; HERITAGE CLAIM AND DELIVERY 16 CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Texas corporation; and DOES 1 17 through 20, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 20 Plaintiff alleges: 21 22 GENERAL ALLEGATIONS 23 Plaintiff Gary Fernandez is a resident of the State of 1. California, County of Alameda, and at all times herein mentioned 25 was doing business as a rare coin dealer doing business throughout 26 the state of California and the United States. 27 Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges,

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that defendant Professional Coin Grading Service (hereinafter

- 3. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that defendant David Hall is a resident of the City of Newport Beach, County of Orange, State of California.
- 4. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that defendant Heritage Capital Corporation (hereinafter referred to as "Heritage") is a corporation organized in the State of Texas and doing business throughout the State of California, including Newport Beach, California, and that the coins referred to in Paragraph 7 hereof as hereinafter set forth, were purchased by said corporation from plaintiff and are presently located in Newport Beach, California at the location of defendant PCGS, having been delivered to defendant PCGS by defendant Heritage.
- 5. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin are now, and at all times herein mentioned were, residents of the State of Texas.
- 6. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities and identities of defendants DOES 1 through 20 and therefore sues said defendants by such fictitious names, and will ask leave of court to amend this complaint and set forth the true names and capacities of said defendants when same are ascertained.
- 6. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each of the Doe defendants were, and are, in some way liable for the losses hereinafter alleged to plaintiff, and plaintiff will

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amend this mplaint to set forth the ue nature of the acts and/or omissions of each said Doe defendant, proximately causing said loss to plaintiff when said loss is ascertained.

- On or about July 15, 1988, and to and including July 20, 1988, plaintiff sold and delivered to defendant Heritage gold and silver coins for an agreed upon sum of \$891,378. Said coins are itemized on Exhibit "A" hereof, and incorporated hereat by this reference.
- 8. Neither whole nor any part of said sum has been paid, and there is presently due, owing and payable from defendant Heritage to plaintiff the sum of \$891,378.
- PCGS is a business entity presently operated by 9. defendant David Hall. The business of defendant PCGS consists of the grading by appraisal of valuable coins, sealing the coin so appraised in an impenetrable plastic casing and guaranteeing the value of the coin to be as graded based upon the then current market value for such coins of said grade.
- 10. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that each and all of the defendants herein, in doing the act or actions herein alleged, were acting in consort with, and as the agents, employees, or representatives of each and all of their codefendants.
- 11. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that defendant Heritage was and is a mere sham and shell organized and operated as the alter ego of the individual defendants, Steven Ivy and James Halperin, for their personal benefit and advantage in that the individual defendants have at all times herein mentioned exercised total dominion and control over the corporate defendant

individual defendants wel 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

significant shareholders of the corporation. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and hereon alleges, that the individual defendants, Steven Ivy and James Halperin, and the corporate defendant, Heritage have so intermingled their personal and financial affairs that the corporate defendant was and is the alter ego of the said individual defendants such that an injustice will result if the theoretical entity of the corporate defendant is not disregarded and the individual defendant's held liable for the indebtedness of the corporate defendant.

and are the only

Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon 12. alleges that defendant PCGS was and is a mere sham and shell organized and operated as the alter ego of the individual defendant David Hall for his personal benefit and advantage in that said individual defendant David Hall has at all times herein mentioned exercised total dominion and control over the corporate defendant PCGS. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges that the individual defendant David Hall and the corporate defendant PCGS have so intermingled their personal and financial affairs that the corporate defendant PCGS was and is the alter ego of defendant David Hall and that an injustice will result of the theoretical entity of the corporate defendant is not disregarded and the individual defendant David Hall be held liable for the indebtedness of the corporate defendant.

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FIRST CAUSE OF TION

(Against Defendants Heritage, Steven Ivy And

James Halperin)

- 13. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of the General Allegations as though fully set forth at this place.
- 14. Within two years, on or about July 14 through July 20, 1988, defendant Heritage as the alter ego of defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, became indebted to plaintiff for goods sold and delivered by plaintiff to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, who then and there agreed to pay the sum of \$807,378 for said goods.
- 15. Neither-the-whole nor any part of the above sum has been paid although demand therefore has been made and there is now due, owing and unpaid from defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin to plaintiff the sum of \$807,378, together with interest thereon at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 20, 1988.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(For Breach Of Oral Contract Against Defendants Heritage, Ivy And Halperin)

- 16. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of the General Allegations and Paragraphs 14 and 15 of the First Cause of Action, as though fully set forth at this place.
- 17. On or about July 20, 1988, plaintiff and defendants
 Heritage, Ivy and Halperin entered into an oral agreement whereby
 plaintiff agreed to sell and deliver antique gold and silver coins

19. On or about July 20, 1988, defendants breached the oral agreement by failing and refusing to pay the sum agreed upon, notwithstanding that defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin took possession of said gold and silver coins, and have acknowledged receipt thereof and now refuse to either forthwith pay the said—agreed sum of \$807,378 or to return the coins, notwithstanding demand therefore having been made.

20. As a direct and proximate result of the breach of contract by defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, plaintiff has been damaged in the sum of \$807,378 plus interest thereon at the legal rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 20, 1988 until said sum is paid.

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THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(For Slander Per Se Against Defendants Professional Coin Grading Service, David Hall, Steven Ivy, James Halperin, Heritage Capital Corporation,

And Does 1 Through 10, Inclusive)

21. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of the General

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Allegation., Paragraphs 14 and 15 of s First Cause of Action, ar Paragraphs 17 through 20 of the Second Cause of Action, as though fully set forth at this place.

- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that commencing on or about July 14, 1988 defendants David Hall, acting individually and for and on behalf of defendant PCGS and defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, acting individually and for and on behalf of defendant Heritage, and defendants Does 1 through 10, inclusive, published both by speaking and upon information and belief, in written form, the following words, of and concerning the plaintiff:
- Defendants Hall and PCGS published allegations that PCGS's security system had been breached and that between two hundred and five hundred coins analyzed, graded and sealed by PCGS were allegedly being illicitly sold.
- Defendants Hall and PCGS, together with defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, and defendants Does 1 through 10 orally published an accusation associating plaintiff with said "illicit" coins essentially telling people with whom plaintiff did business, and who then owed plaintiff money, in connection with coins sold by plaintiff that such persons should not do business with plaintiff. Said named defendants further stated that plaintiff has been selling illicit coins.
- Defendant Hall, individually, and for and on behalf of C. PCGS and defendants Ivy and Halperin, individually and for and on behalf of Heritage, did further orally publish statements accusing plaintiff of being under investigation by the FBI for criminal and/or fraudulent conduct relating to the sale of "illicit" coins.

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1 | Said defend its, along with defendants ses 1 through 10, further advised people with whom plaintiff was engaged in a business relationship not to pay plaintiff for any coins he has sold, not to do business with plaintiff because he was engaged in illicit coin sales and further stated that they were going to "close him down".

- These words were heard by Joel Rettew, Charles 23. Anestasia, Steven Ivy, James Halperin, John Highfill, Heritage Capital Corporation and other persons not presently known to plaintiff.
- These words were slanderous per se because they attack 24. plaintiff in his reputation in business and impugn to plaintiff criminal acts and fraudulent acts.
- 25. The words uttered were false because plaintiff has not altered any of the PCGS packaging, nor has plaintiff ever knowingly sold any coin in an altered PCGS package. Moreover, PCGS has placed in the marketplace packaged coins with gross errors in grading which plaintiff is informed and believes constitute the allegedly "illicit" coins to which defendants Hall and PCGS refer to in its allegations set forth in Paragraph 22, above.
- 26. The words carry a defamatory meaning because, the market value for any given coin is effected by the grading of said coin by PCGS. If a PCGS graded coin has been altered or substituted, the buyer will receive a coin having a value other than as represented by the grade of the coin set forth on the tag accompanying the coin in the sealed plastic container. If a coin merchant is accused of selling "illicit" coins, no one hearing and believing said 27 accusation will do business with such person since they cannot rely upon the value of the coins being sold by such person.

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words were understood by ose who read and/or heard them in a way that defamed plaintiff because, an "illicit" coin means that either the integrity of the plastic packaging has been damaged and the coin has been replaced or substituted for another coin, or the integrity of the plastic packaging has been compromised and the paper tag showing the grading of the coin has been altered or substituted In either way, the purchaser of the said coin is not getting that which is being represented by PCGS as a specifically graded coin.

- As a result of the above described words, plaintiff has suffered general damages to his reputation in the sum of \$10,000,000.
- As a further proximate result of the above described words, plaintiff has suffered the following special damages:
- A. Charles Anestasia has failed and refused to pay \$57,600 for coins heretofore sold to Charles Anestasia by plaintiff;
- Defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin have failed and refused, and continue to fail and refuse to pay the sum of \$807,378 due and owing for coins sold to said defendants by plaintiff;
- C. Plaintiff has been unable to engage in plaintiff's business, trade and profession, because no one in the coin business will buy from or sell to plaintiff. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that the total cessation of his business from and after July 20, 1988 is directly attributable to the allegations made against him as hereinabove set forth and his entire business has ceased, all to his injury in the sum of

The above described words were spoken by defendants and each of them, with malice, oppression and fraud in that plaintiff is informed and believes that the accusations against him are designed as a subtrafuge and cover-up for PCGS' internal errors in the grading of coins. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that he has been made a scapegoat by defendants in order to shift the focus of blame for PCGS' internal errors which, if known to the community of coin traders would adversely affect the marketplace since it would become difficult to rely upon the grading of PCGS to determine the value of a coin. By reason of such intentional, malicious and oppressive acts of the defendants and each of them, plaintiff is entitled to an award of exemplary and punitive damages in the amount of \$10,000,000.

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FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Against Defendants Hall, PCGS, Ivy, Halperin Heritage And Does 1 Through 10)

- Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every 31. allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of the General Allegations, Paragraphs 14 and 15 of the First Cause of Action, Paragraphs 17 through 20 of the Second Cause of Action, and Paragraphs 22 through 30 of the Third Cause of Action, as though fully set forth at this place.
- Plaintiff is Informed and believes, and thereon alleges 32. that defendant Hall, individually, and for and on behalf of defendant PCGS, and defendants Ivy and Halperin, individually and 28 for and on behalf of defendant Heritage, and defendants Does 1

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clusive; knowing of plain Joel Rettew, Heritage, John Highfill and others, on or about July 15, 1988, met with Joel Rettew, Heritage, John Highfill and others and falsely accused plaintiff of improper conduct, fraudulent acts and the sale of "illicit" coins all with the intent to harm plaintiff financially and to induce Jcel Rettew, Heritage and others to breach their then existing contracts with plaintiff by 1. ducing them not to pay plaintiff for merchandise sold by plaintiff to Joel Rettew in the approximate amount of \$57,600 and to Heritage in the approximate amount of \$807,378.

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- As a direct and proximate result of the actions of the defendants, and each of them, Joel Rettew has failed and refused to pay \$57,600 owed to plaintiff_from_Joel_Rettew,_and Heritage has refused and failed to pay \$807,378 owed by Heritage to plaintiff.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges 34. that failure and refusal of John Highfill, and others, to do any further business with plaintiff is a direct and proximate result of the publications made by the defendants, and each of them, against plaintiff concerning his business practices, impugning fraudulent conduct to him, and alleging that he was selling "illicit" coins.
- The aforementioned acts of defendants and each of them were willful and oppressive, and were done with malice in that they were designed and intended to harm plaintiff, prevent plaintiff from conducting business, and deprive plaintiff of the benefits of contracts for which he had fully performed. Plaintiff is therefore entitled to punitive damages in the sum of \$10,000,000.
- As a direct and proximate result of the allegations of the defendants, and each of them, plaintiff has suffered damages by

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(For Intentional Infliction Of Emotional Distress
Against Defendants Hall, PCGS, Ivy, Halperin,
Heritage, And Does 1 Through 10, Inclusive)

- 37. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of the General Allegations, Paragraphs 14 and 15 of the First Cause of Action, Paragraphs 17 through 20 of the Second Cause of Action, Paragraphs 22 through 30 of the Third Cause of Action, and Paragraphs 32 through 36 of the Fourth Cause of Action, as though fully set forth at this place.
- that in doing the acts hereinabove alle of defendants intended to cause plaintiff great emotional distress. As a proximate result of the acts of defendants, and each of them is hereinabove described, plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain emotional distress and mental suffering, not limited to sle less nights, anxiety, nightmares and eating disorders, all to intiff's general damages in an amount not yet ascertained. Plaif will seek leave of this court to amend this complaint where eare ascertained.

 39. As a further direct and prome result of said

incidental expenses

28 conduct, plaintiff will incur medical a

relating for a distress, the exact am c not yet ascertained and plaintiff will seek leave of this court to amend this complaint when same are ascertained.

40. By reason of the intentional acts of defendants, defendants, and each of them, acting with malice and oppression, designed to cause plaintiff mental and emotional distress.

Defendants, and each of them, are liable to plaintiff for exemplary and punitive damages in the sum of \$10,000,000.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(For Negligent Infliction Of Emotional Distress)

- 41. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of the General Allegations, Paragraphs 14 and 15 of the First Cause of Action, Paragraphs 17 through 20 of the Second Cause of Action, Paragraphs 22 through 30 of the Third Cause of Action, Paragraphs 32 through 36 of the Fourth Cause of Action, and Paragraphs 38 through 40 of the Fifth Cause of Action, as though fully set forth at this place.
- 42. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that each and all of the representations hereinabove set forth were made by defendants, and each of them, without any justification or fact, or without any knowledge, information or evidence to support any of the defendants' claims as alleged in Paragraph 22, herein. As a direct and proximate result of the recklessness of the defendants, and each of them, in making the allegations as set forth in Paragraph 22, and in making said allegations without any factual basis therefore, defendants and each of them were grossly negligent.

43. s a direct and proximate sult of the recklessness of the conduct of defendants and each of them plaintiff has sustained damage to his reputation in the business community, has sustained monetary damages in a sum in excess of \$950,000 and has sustained severe anguish and anxiety, mental and emotional distress, discomfort, pain and suffering, all to his general damages in a su to be ascertained at the time of trial. Plaintiff will ask leave of the court to amend this complaint to set forth the same when ascertained.

44. As a direct and proximate result of the actions of the defendants, and each of them, plaintiff is informed and thereon alleges that he will sustain medical and incidental expenses relating to and in connection with—the-emotional—distress herein alleged, in an amount not yet fully ascertained, and plaintiff will ask leave of the court to amend this complaint to set forth the amount of special and incidental damages sustained, including but not limited to those for medical practitioners when same are ascertained.

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(For Conversion Against Defendants Hall And PCGS)

45. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of the General Allegations, Paragraphs 14 and 15 of the First Cause of Action, Paragraphs 17 through 20 of the Second Cause of Action, Paragraphs 22 through 30 of the Third Cause of Action, Paragraphs 32 through 36 of the Fourth Cause of Action, Paragraphs 38 through 40 of the Fifth Cause of Action, and Paragraphs 42 through 44 of the Sixth

.

- 46. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that on or about July 22, 1988, defendants Ivy and Halperin, for and on behalf of defendant Heritage did convey, transfer and deliver to David Hall and PCGS each and every item of personal property described upon Exhibit "A" hereof, attached hereto and incorporated hereat by this reference.
- 47. Plaintiff alleges that said items, having not been paid for, are the personal property of plaintiff.
- 48. Demand for the immediate return of plaintiff's property has been made upon defendants Hall, PCGS, Ivy, Halperin and Heritage, and said defendants, each and all, have refused to return said items, but have converted same to their own use and benefit, in derogation of plaintiff's rights thereto.
- 49. As a direct and proximate result of the conversion of said items of personal property, plaintiff has been deprived of the use and benefit of same, and defendants, and each of them, have been unjustly enriched by the use and benefit of same, all to plaintiff's damages in the sum of \$807,378.

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(For Claim And Delivery Against Heritage, Ivy,
Halperin, And PCGS)

50. Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of the General Allegations, Paragraphs 14 and 15 of the First Cause of Action, Paragraphs 17 through 20 of the Second Cause of Action, Paragraphs 22 through 30 of the Third Cause of Action, Paragraphs 32 through

- Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every allegation set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 12 of the General Allegations, as though fully set forth at this place.
- 55. Within two years and before July 14, 1988, defendant Heritage as the alter ego of defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, became indebted to plaintiff for goods sold and delivered by plaintiff to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, who then and there agreed to pay the sum of \$84,310 for said goods.
 - Neither the whole nor any part of the above sum has been 56.

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2	owing and unpaid from defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin to
3	plaintiff the sum of \$84,310, together with interest thereon at the
4	rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 1, 1988.
5	WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for judgment against defendants,
6	and each of them, as follows:
7	1. For general damages according to proof;
8	2. For special damages according to proof;
9	3. For punitive damages according to proof;
10	4. For the immediate return of plaintiff's personal
11	property;
12	5. For attorney's fees incurred in connection with the
13	recovery of said personal property;
14	6. For costs of suit incurred herein; and
15	7. For such other and further relief as the court may deem
16	just and proper.
17	DATED: August / 1988 KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS
18	ROBERT M. ROSS
19	Attorneys for Plaintiff Gary Fernandez
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PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I am employed in the County of Orange, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is that of Latham & Watkins as set forth on the first page of the document to which this Proof is attached.

I served the below listed document(s) described as:

Request to Take Judicial Notice in Support of Motion to Dismiss and for Sanctions

on October 20, 1988 on all other parties to this action by placing a [xx] true copy [] original of the above document enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:

William J. Reifman, Esq. Robert M. Ross
Mayer, Brown & Platt Klass, Helman & Ross
355 S. Grand Avenue 10850 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90071 Los Angeles, CA 90024

- [xx] I placed such envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid for deposit in the United States mail in accordance with the office practice of Latham & Watkins for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. I am familiar with the office practice of Latham & Watkins for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service, which practice is that when correspondence is deposited with the Latham & Watkins personnel responsible for delivering correspondence to the United States Postal Service, such correspondence is delivered to the United States Postal Service that same day in the ordinary course of business.

Executed on October 20, 1988, at Costa Mesa, California.

[] (State) I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct.

[xxx] (Federal) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made.

Sandra L. McNeff

(Signature)

THAM & WATKINS
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LATHAM & WATKINS 1 Robert E. Currie Peter J. Wilson 2 650 Town Center Drive, 20th Floor Costa Mesa, California 92626 3 (714) 540-1235 4 Attorneys for Defendants 5 David Hall and Professional Coin Grading Service 6 7 8 9 10 11 GARY FERNANDEZ, 12 Plaintiff, 13 14

INDUCT ONDER CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SANTA ANA OFFICE DEPUT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DAVID HALL; PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE, a California corporation; STEVEN IVY; JAMES HALPERIN; HERITAGE CAPITAL) CORPORATION, a Texas corporation;) and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive,) Defendants.

Case No. CV 88-556 JSL(RWRX)

NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION BY DEFENDANTS DAVID HALL AND PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE TO DISMISS COMPLAINT; TO STRIKE CERTAIN PORTIONS THEREOF AND FOR RULE 11 SANCTIONS

[JOINT MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES AND REQUEST FOR JUDICIAL NOTICE FILED CONCURRENTLY HEREWITH UNDER SEPARATE COVERS 1

November 14, 1988 Date:

1:00 p.m. Time: Dept.: Courtroom 2

TO ALL PARTIES AND TO THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, November 14, 1988, at 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, in the courtroom of the Honorable J. Spencer Letts, located at 751 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana, California 92701, defendants David Hall and Professional Coin Grading Service ("Defendants") will move the Court pursuant to Rule

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12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure for an Order Dismissing the Complaint; for an alternative Order striking paragraph 27 of the Complaint, and for sanctions.

This Motion is made on the following grounds:

- 1. Plaintiff has failed to plead the allegations of his RICO claim, Count One of the Complaint, with particularity and has failed to allege a pattern of racketeering activity as required by 18 U.S.C. Section 1962. The pendent state claims should be dismissed if the RICO claim is dismissed.
- 2. Plaintiff's claim for equitable relief must be stricken since private equitable relief is not available to a private plaintiff in a RICO claim.
- 3. Plaintiff's RICO claim is not well-grounded in fact or law and thus sanctions, including attorney's fees, are appropriate.

This motion is based upon this Notice, the concurrently filed Joint Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the concurrently filed Request for Judicial Notice, on all pleadings, papers, records and other material or information on file, or of which the Court may take judicial notice and on such other evidence or argument as may be submitted at or before the time the Motion is heard.

DATED: October 20, 1988

LATHAM & WATKINS

By:

Peter J. Wilson Attorneys for Defendants DAVID HALL and PROFESSIONAL COIN

GRADING SERVICE

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I am employed in the County of Orange, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is that of Latham & Watkins as set forth on the first page of the document to which this Proof is attached.

I served the below listed document(s) described as:

Notice of Motion and Motion by Defendants David Hall and Professional Coin Grading Service to Dismiss Complaint; to Strike Certain Portions Thereof and for Rule 11 Sanctions

on October 20, 1988 on all other parties to this action by placing a [xx] true copy [] original of the above document enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:

William J. Reifman, Esq. Mayer, Brown & Platt 355 S. Grand Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90071

Robert M. Ross Klass, Helman & Ross 10850 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500 Los Angeles, CA 90024

[xx] I placed such envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid for deposit in the United States mail in accordance with the office practice of Latham & Watkins for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. I am familiar with the office practice of Latham & Watkins for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service, which practice is that when correspondence is deposited with the Latham & Watkins personnel responsible for delivering correspondence to the United States Postal Service, such correspondence is delivered to the United States Postal Service that same day in the ordinary course of business.

Executed on October 20, 1988, at Costa Mesa, California.

[] (State) I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct.

[XXX] (Federal) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made.

Sandra L. McNeff

(Signature)

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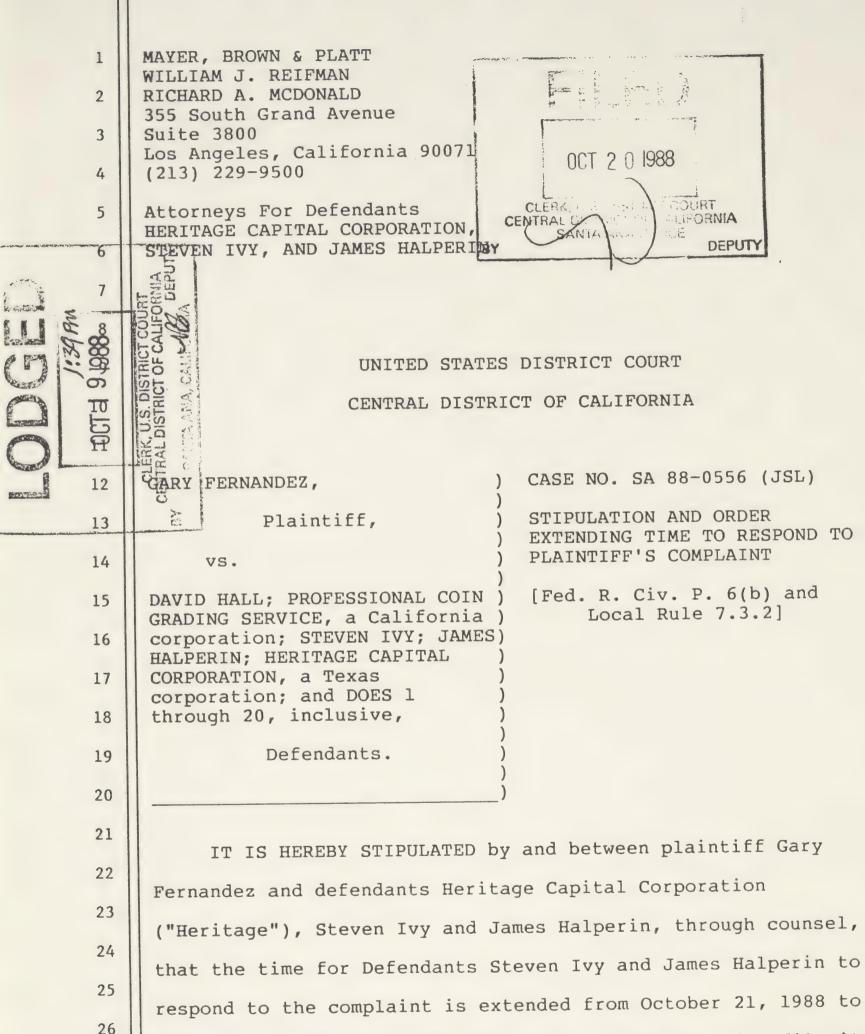
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November 1, 1988, the same day on which Heritage will file its

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response to the Complaint.

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This stipulation is entered into because the summons and complaint were served on these defendants on different dates but the parties wish to promote judicial economy by allowing the Defendants to answer on the same day because they are represented by the same counsel. Dated: October 18, 1988 MAYER, BROWN & PLATT WILLIAM J. REIFMAN RICHARD A. MCDONALD Attorneys for Defendants HERITAGE CAPITAL CORPORATION, STEVEN IVY AND JAMES HALPERIN

Dated: October 😕 , 1988

KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS ROBERT M. ROSS

Attorney for Plaintiff

GARY FERNANDEZ

///

///

ORDER

Pursuant to stipulation, and good cause appearing therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that the time for defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin to respond to plaintiff Gary Fernandez's complaint in Case No. SA 88-0556 is extended from October 21, 1988 to November 1, 1988.

Dated: October <u>26</u>, 1988

Honorable J. Spencer Letts United States District Court

VERIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF I have read the foregoing___ and know its contents. CHECK APPLICABLE PARAGRAPH I am a party to this action. The matters stated in the foregoing document are true of my own knowledge except as to those matters which are stated on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true. I am an Officer a partner a a party to this action, and am authorized to make this verification for and on its behalf, and I make this verification for that reason.

I am informed and believe and on that ground allege that the matters stated in the foregoing document are true.

The matters stated in the foregoing document are true of my own knowledge except as to those matters which are stated on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true. I am one of the attorneys for_ a party to this action. Such party is absent from the county of aforesaid where such attorneys have their offices, and I make this verification for and on behalf of that party for that reason. I am informed and believe and on that ground allege that the matters stated in the foregoing document are true. _California. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Type or Print Name Signature · ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF DOCUMENT (other than summons and complaint) Received copy of document described as-19____. Type or Print Name Signature PROOF OF SERVICE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES I am employed in the county of____ Los Angeles ____, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business address is: 355 South Grand Avenue, Suite 3800, Los Angeles, CA 90071 On October 1819 88 I served the foregoing document described as STIPULATION AND ORDER EXTENDING TIME TO RESPOND TO PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT all interested parties on... in this action by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed as follows: Robert M. Ross, Esq. Peter J. Wilson, Esq. Klass, Helman & Ross Latham & Watkins 10850 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500 650 Town Center Drive, Suite 2000 Los Angeles, CA 90024 Costa Mesa, CA 92626 (BY MAIL) I caused such envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid to be placed in the United States mail at Los Angeles, California. _____, 19_88at Los Angeles October 18 Executed on-(BY PERSONAL SERVICE) I caused such envelope to be delivered by hand to the offices of the addressee. ___, 19____, at__ Executed on_ I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct. (State) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made. Janet Stober Type or Print Name STUART'S EXBROOK TIMESAVER (REVISED 6/83)

(May be used in California State or Federal Courts)

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GARY FERNANDEZ

Record Time Spent by Judge or Magistrate

ROBERT H ROSS
KLASS HELMAN & ROSS
10850 WILSHIRE BLVD STE 500
LOS ANGELES CA 90024
(213)277-2224

2 DET DAVID HALL

3 DF)
PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERV

4 DFT STEVEN IVY

≱ 5 DF) JAMES HALPERIN

6 DET HERITAGE CAPITAL CORP

7 DET DOES 1-20

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DOCKET

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HALPERIN; HERITAGE CAPITAL COL	RPORATION, a.	ATTORNEY TO	APPEAR IN A SPECIFIC C	ASE
Texas corporation; and, DOES I through 20, inclusive,	DEFENDANT(S)			
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I. Armen R. Vartian				
			the Court under Local Ru	
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Heritage Capital Corporation				
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VERIFICATION

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STUART'S EXBROOK TIMESAVER (REVISED 6/83)
(May be used in California State or Federal Courts)

ROBERT M. ROSS
KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS
10850 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500
Los Angeles, California 90024
213/277-2224

Attorneys for Plaintiff Gary Fernandez
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

11 GARY FERNANDEZ,

Plaintiff,

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DAVID HALL; PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE, a California corporation; STEVEN IVY; JAMES HALPERIN; HERITAGE CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Texas corporation; and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. SA CV88-556 JSL (RWRx)

SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES FOR VIOLATION OF 18 U.S.C. §1961 (CIVIL RICOO; FOR GOODS SOLD AND DELIVERED; BREACH OF ORAL CONTRACT; INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS; NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS; CONVERSION; CLAIM AND DELIVERY; AND PENDENT STATE COMMON COUNT CLAIMS

[DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL]

Plaintiff alleges:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This action arises under 18 U.S.C. Sections 1961 and 1962 and pendant state claims as hereinafter more fully alleged. This court has jurisdiction under and by virtue of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961 et seq.
- 2. Venue is founded in this judicial district upon 18
 U.S.C. Section 1965(a) as the place of residence of defendant David
 Hall is in this district, as well as this being the district in

which defendant Professional Coin Grading Service has its corporate offices, where plaintiff's coins have been secreted, and is a district within which Heritage Capital Corporation does business.

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PARTIES

- At all times herein mentioned, plaintiff Gary Fernandez 3. was and now is, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the State of California, County of Alameda, and at all times herein mentioned was doing business throughout the state of California and the United States as a rare coin dealer.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Professional Coin Grading Service (hereinafter referred to as "PCGS") is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a California corporation, with its principal place of business in the County of Orange, City of Newport Beach, State of California. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that said corporation does business throughout the United States and is an enterprise within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(4).
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, 5. that defendant David Hall is a person whose residence is in the City of Newport Beach, County of Orange, State of California.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, 23 that Heritage Capital Corporation (hereinafter referred to as "Heritage") is a corporation organized in the State of Texas and 25 doing business throughout the State of California, including 26 Newport Beach, California, and that Heritage is an enterprise within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(4).
 - Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges 7.

that defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin are now, and at all times herein mentioned were, persons who are residents of the State of Texas.

- 8. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities and identities of defendants DOES 1 through 20 and therefore sues said defendants by such fictitious names, and will ask leave of court to amend this complaint and set forth the true names and capacities of said defendants when same are ascertained.
- 9. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each of the Doe defendants were, and are, in some way liable for the losses hereinafter alleged to plaintiff, and plaintiff will amend this complaint to set forth the true nature of the acts and/or omissions of each said Doe defendant, proximately causing said loss to plaintiff when said loss is ascertained.
- 10. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that each of the individual defendants herein, including defendants Does 1 through 20 were and are the agents, employees or representatives of Hall, Halperin and/or Ivy, and in doing the things herein alleged, were acting within the scope and agency of said employment.
- 11. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that each and all of the defendants herein, in doing the act or actions herein alleged, were acting in consort with, and as the agents, employees, or representatives of each and all of their codefendants and in furtherance of a conspiracy between Hall, Halperin, Ivy & Does 1 through 20.

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(RICO)

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At all times herein mentioned David Hall, Steven Ivy and James Halperin and Does 1-20 were and are "persons" within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(3) et seq.

- 13. At all times herein mentioned Professional Coin Grading Service and Heritage Capital Corporation were enterprises engaged in the numismatic industry. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that PCGS was in the business of grading coins by appraisal submitted to it by subscribing members. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that once graded (appraised), said coins are then sealed in a plastic container with the grade (appraisal) affixed thereto with the express purpose and intent of placing the thus graded and encased coin into interstate commerce for sale and resale in the numismatic industry by PCGS members.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes that, to help effect the intersstate sale of the PCGS graded coins, PCGS created an Interstate Wire Service, serving the entire Continental United States, known as "ANE". Only members of PCGS may belong to ANE and ANE is used for the purpose of advertising for the purchase and sale of coins and in connection with setting prices for a particular coin of a specified "grade". For example, an 1892 \$5.00 "Liberty" gold piece having been graded MS 64 would have a market value of X, and an 1892 \$5.00 "Liberty" gold piece having been graded MS. 63 would have a market value of X-Y. The actual value in the marketplace may be determined by what a willing buyer will pay to a willing seller, each being subscribers to "ANE". If a seller advertises an 1892 \$5.00 "Liberty" MS. 64 on ANE for X, it

"Liberty". The buyer doesn't see the coin until after the transaction is made and the buyer's check is mailed.

- 15. Plaintiff, having been a member of PCGS and a subscriber to the "ANE" wire service, is informed and believes that the vast majority of transactions in PCGS graded coins are conducted through the use of the "ANE" wire service, with payment for the coin sent through the U.S. Mail.
- 16. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that Heritage Capital Corporation is an enterprise engaged in the business of buying and selling coins within the numismatic industry and through the United States mails, among other methods.

 Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that the price paid for or received by Heritage is, in part, determined by the grade (appraisal) of any specific coin being bought or sold by it. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that HCC was a member of PCGS and used, on an almost exclusive basis, PCGS to grade (appraise) coins sold by said HCC.
- 17. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin did form an association and conspiracy to engage in unlawful acts and violate plaintiff's rights in an attempt to put plaintiff out of business by the conduct hereinafter expressly set forth.

PATTERN OF RACKETEERING ACTS

18. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendants Ivy, Halperin and Hall have engaged in two or more racketeering acts as prohibited by 18 U.S.C. 1961, et seq. as follows:

- (a) Within ten years last past, to wit, in or about October of 1987, Hall, through an agent, DOE XX violated 18 U.S.C. Sections 471, 472, and 473 and USC 1341 relating to counterfeiting in that Hall did transport through interstate mail, for the purpose of passing same off to Alan Hagar as authentic, a 1892 \$5.00 "Liberty" United States coin being a counterfeit coin. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Hall knew at the time that said coin was counterfeit;
- (b) Within ten years last past, to wit, in or about November, 1987, plaintiff is informed and believes that defendant Hall violated 18 U.S.C. Sections 471, 472, and 473 and 18 USC 1341 relating to counterfeiting in that Hall did transport through or cause to be transported through interstate mail, (in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341) for the purpose of passing same of to Alan Hagar as an authentic United States Coin, a 1925 D "Indian" counterfeit coin. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Hall knew at the time that said coin was counterfeit;
- (c) Plaintiff is informed and believes that the acts of Hall as identified in Paragraph 18 (a) and (b) hereof were part of an effort to put Alan Hagar out of business by discrediting said Alan Hagar and his competing appraisal and grading business known as "ACCUGRADE". In furtherance of the object of putting "ACCUGRADE" out of business, plaintiff is informed and believes that defendant Hall did, in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1951(a), in or about October of 1987, physically, threaten the person of Alan Hagar, both personally and through Does XVIII and XIX by threats of physical injury in an attempt to obstruct and interfere with Alan Hagar's business "Accugrade" as a competitor in interstate commerce

19. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that as and each of them have engaged in the above pattern of acts with respect to plaintiff as they had with respect to Alan Hagar for the purpose of putting plaintiff out of business.

- 20. Within ten years last past, to wit, in or about July 1988, plaintiff is informed and believes that defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin conspired to, and did violate 18 U.S.C. Sections 2314 and 2315 relating to interstate transportation of stolen property in that defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin caused the coins identified in Exhibit "A" hereof, received by Heritage (pursuant to the theft by fraud herein alleged in paragraph 21 hereof) to be transported from Ohio to New York and/or California and/or Texas;
- 21. Plaintiff is informed and believes that within ten years last past, to wit, July of 1988, defendant Halperin, acting on behalf of the conspiracy alleged in Paragraph 17 hereof, physically threatened Brian Fazio (who acted as an agent for Plaintiff) if Fazio continued to do business with plaintiff, which said physical threat constituted a violation of 18 U.S.C. §1951;

COUNT ONE

(RICO)

- 22. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference, paragraphs 1 through 21 as if fully set forth herein.
- 23. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that defendants Hall, Ivy, & Halperin and Does 2 through 10, inclusive, conspired to commit and committed mail fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1341, in that they took coins and inventory of plaintiff through the use of a scheme and artifice

with the intent to obtain plaintiff's property and permanently deprive plaintiff thereof, through the use of the United States Mails, by deceit and through making the following material misrepresentations of fact:

- (i) On or about July 14, 1988, defendants
 Halperin and Ivy, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, represented to
 plaintiff and plaintiff's agent Brian Fazio, that they would pay
 the fair market price of \$807,378 as agreed upon by the parties and
 set forth in Exhibit "A" hereof for gold and silver coins;
- (ii) That defendants Halperin, Ivy and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, represented that they were acquiring said coins for, and on behalf of the enterprise known as Heritage Capital Corporation, in an arms length business transaction common within the numismatic industry;
- (iii) That plaintiff would be paid the agreed upon sum of \$807,374 for the specified coins, payment to be mailed through the United States mails.
- 24. The truth, known to defendants Halperin, Ivy and Hall, but unknown to plaintiff, was that:
- (i) Defendants Ivy, Halperin, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, acting in association and conspiracy with defendants Hall and Does 6 through 10, intended to acquire, without payment therefor, all of plaintiff's coin inventory with the intent to permanently deprive plaintiff thereof without payment therefor, for the purpose of putting plaintiff out of business.
- (ii) That defendants Halperin, Ivy, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, acting as directors, officers, agents and employees of Heritage, and acting at all times within the scope of

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property without any compensation whatsoever, and intended to and, in fact did, effect a theft of plaintiff's property having an approximate value at the time of said theft of the sum of \$807,374.

25. That after taking possession of plaintiff's coins,

such agency and employment, sought to deprive plaintiff of his

- 25. That after taking possession of plaintiff's coins, defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin first violated 18 U.S. C. 1341 by mailing through United States mail and thereafter dishonoring check for payment for said coins and thereafter violated Sections 2314 and 2315 by transporting said coins from Ohio to the states of New York, Texas and California;
- 26. Plaintiff is informed and believes that within ten years last past, to wit, on or about July 10, 1988, defendants Ivy and Halperin conspired to commit and committed mail fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341 in that they caused HCC to obtain property of Plaintiff being Gold and Silver coins having a value of \$84,310 and agreeing to pay for same by check sent through he United States mail and thereafter caused said HCC to check to be dishonored, effecting the scheme to obtain Plaintiff's property through the use of the United States mails.
- 27. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that all acts of defendants and each of them, was done with intent to defraud plaintiff of his property.
- 28. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that on or about July 10, 1988 defendants Ivy and Halperin conspired to and did commit mail fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341 in that they caused HCC to obtain property of plaintiff having a fair market value of \$84,310, being Gold and Silver coins and representing that same would be paid for by check sent through the

United States Mail.

29. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that defendants Hall, Ivy, & Halperin and Does 2 through 10, inclusive, conspired to commit and committed mail fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1341, in that they took coins and inventory of plaintiff through the use of a scheme and artifice with the intent to obtain plaintiff's property and permanently deprive plaintiff thereof, through the use of the United States Mails, by deceit and through making the following material misrepresentations of fact:

- (i) On or about July 10, 1988, defendants

 Halperin and Ivy, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, represented to

 plaintiff in a telephone conversation that HCC would pay the fair

 market price of \$84,310 as agreed upon by the parties for certain

 gold and silverr coins.
- (ii) That defendants Halperin, Ivy and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, represented that they were acquiring said coins for, and on behalf of the enterprise known as Heritage Capital Corporation, in an arms length business transaction common within the numismatic industry;
- (iii) That plaintiff would be paid the agreed upon sum of \$84,310 for the coins, payment to be mailed through the United States mails.
- (iv) Defendants Halprin, Hall and Ivy used interstate wire transmission in the form of a telephone conversation in furtherance of its scheme and artiface to obtain plaintiff's property without payment therefor in that, on or about July 10, 1988 prior to plaintiff's delivery of the coins referred

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to in paragraph 29.(i) hereof, plaintiff received a call from an employee of HCC whom plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges was acting at the express instructions of defendants Halprin and Ivy and who advised plaintiff that if plaintiff would send the coins that day, HCC would mail its check in payment therefor in the sum of \$84,310 concurrently.

- (v) Had plaintiff not received the check for \$84,310 plaintiff would not have parted with the \$807,378 in gold and silver coins referred to in paragraph 23.(i) hereof.
- (vi) Plaintiff is informed and believes that both the phone call and the mailing of the \$84,310 check, (later dishonored) were part of the scheme and artiface to deprive plaintiff of his property, both with respect to the \$84,310 worth of gold and silver coins referred to in paragraph 29. (i) hereof and with respect to the \$807,378 worth of gold and silver coins referred to in paragraph 23. (i) hereof in that plaintiff would not have sent \$807,378 worth of coins had not plaintiff received the check for \$84,310. Plaintiff further alleges that the \$807,378 transaction referred to in paragraph 23. (i) occurred subsequent to receipt of the \$84,310 check and prior to notification that said check had been dishonored by HCC.
- 30. The truth, known to defendants Halperin, Ivy and Hall, but unknown to plaintiff, was that:
- (i) Defendants Ivy, Halperin, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, acting in association and conspiracy with defendants Hall and Does 6 through 10, intended to acquire, without payment therefor, all of plaintiff's coin inventory with the intent to permanently deprive plaintiff thereof without payment therefor, for

the purpose of putting plaintiff out of business.

(ii) That defendants Halperin, Ivy, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, acting as directors, officers, agents and employees of Heritage, and acting at all times within the scope of such agency and employment, sought to deprive plaintiff of his property without any compensation whatsoever, and intended to and, in fact did, effect a theft of plaintiff's property having an approximate value at the time of said theft of the sum of \$807,374.

- 31. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that all acts of defendants and each of them, were done with the intent to defraud plaintiff of his property;
- 32. On or about July 14, 1988, plaintiff received a check sent through the United States Mail from HCC for the sum of \$84,310 in payment for said Gold and Silver coins referred to in Paragraph 28 and 29;
- 33. On or about July 14, 1988, plaintiff was informed that said check from HCC referred to in Paragraph 32; was dishonored by HCC.
- and Halperin, acting on behalf of the conspiracy alleged in Paragraph 17 hereof caused said check referred to in Paragraph 32 and 33 to be dishonored pursuant to a scheme and artifice to deprive plaintiff of his property, all in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341.
- 35. If plaintiff had known the true facts to be as set forth in Paragraphs 30 above, plaintiff would not have engaged in the transaction hereinabove alleged, nor would plaintiff have delivered said coins to Ivy, Halperin or Does 1 through 5 nor would plaintiff

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have accepted payment to be made by check sent through the United States mails.

- 36. Plaintiff was reasonable in assuming the veracity and truth of the statements of defendants Ivy, Halperin and Does 2 through 5, as set forth in Paragraphs 23 (i), (ii) and (iii) and 29 (i), (ii), (iii) in that said defendants and plaintiff have done business over a several year period in the past, and plaintiff has always been paid for coins purchased by HCC by check sent through the United States mail. Accordingly, plaintiff was justified in the assumption that HCC would continue to pay by check sent through the United States mail for gold and silver coins shipped to them at their specific request without thereafter dishonoring same.
- 37. As a direct and proximate result of the theft effected through fraud and device as hereinabove alleged, plaintiff has sustained damages in the sum of \$807,376 and \$84,310. Plaintiff seeks that said sum be tripled and that plaintiff be awarded Attorneys fees pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1964.
- 38. By reason of the acts of racketeering and the pattern of racketeering as above alleged by defendants Ivy, Halperin, hall and Does 2 through 10, inclusive, and the conspiracy to commit he acts of theft from plaintiff and interstate transportation of those stolen goods as alleged in Paragraphs 23, 24, 29 and 30 plaintiff has been damaged in the sum of \$807,374 and \$84,310 accordingly, plaintiff seeks damages in said sum and that said sum be tripled and that defendants be required to pay plaintiff's attorney's fees.
- 39. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that at all times herein mentioned defendants Ivy, Halperin and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, were the agents, employees, directors

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or officers of the enterprise known as Heritage Capital Corporation and that in doing the things herein alleged were acting within the course and scope of said agency and employment, thus rendering Heritage liable for any damages attributable to said persons by reason of respondeat superior.

Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that Defendant Hall and defendants Does 6 through 10 were acting at all times herein mentioned as the agents, employees, officers or directors of the enterprise known as Professional Coin Grading Services and that at all times herein mentioned they were acting within the course and scope of said agency and employment; accordingly, plaintiff seeks damages from Professional Coin Grading Services on the basis of respondeat superior.

COUNT TWO

(RICO - Insider Grading)

18 USC 1341 & 1343

- Plaintiff incorporates by this reference each and every 41. allegation contained in Paragraphs 1 through 24 hereof as though set forth hereat in full.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes that defendant Hall, in conspiracy with defendant Ivy and Halperin and Does 11-17 have engaged in a scheme and artifice to manipulate the value of various coins fraudulently overgraded as hereinafter alleged in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341 and 18 U.S.C. 1343 and effected said scheme by and through the use of the United States mail and through the use of any interstate wire system known as "ANE" specifically for 28 members of PCGS in violation of 18 U.S.C. 1341 and 1343

1 Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, 43. that Steven Ivy and James Halperin, by and through Heritage Capital Corporation, acquired an interest in (and are undisclosed principals and owners of) an equity interest in an entity known as the David Hall Group, which said group, plaintiff is informed and believes, is the owner (either equitably or legally) of an interest in Professional Coin Grading Services. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that said interest was acquired in or about March of 1986 for a sum approximating \$2 million dollars.

- Subsequent to April of 1986, David Hall and Halperin and 44. Ivy, conspired to and agreed to (and did in fact) commence a course of conduct pursuant to which favored members of the PCGS service obtained grades for coins submitted to PCGS for grading in excess of the true, accurate and fair grading for said coin, enabling the favored party to obtain, on the open market, and through the use of an interstate wire service known as "ANE" price for said coin far in excess of its actual fair market value.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, 45. that such specific overgrading for insiders included overgrading for coins submitted to PCGS by Heritage Capital Corporation and others sued herein as Does 6-17, inclusive. Without limitation said overgraded coins include:
- (a) PCGS Coin Number 7124745, a 1883 "O" originally graded M.S. 65; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88, resubmitted for grading by plaintiff through an agent and was regraded as MS.64 said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained. Plaintiff will amend to set forth

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the amount when ascertained.

(b) PCGS Coin Number 7124740, originally graded M.S.
65; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88, resubmitted to PCGS for
grading by Plaintiff through an agent and which was regraded as MS.
64 said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin
in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth
the loss when it is known.

- (c) PCGS Coin Number 8070958, originally graded M.S. 64; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88, resubmitted to PCGS for grading by plaintiff through an agent and which was regraded as MS. 63 said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (d) PCGS Coin Number 9006886, originally graded M.S. 64P/L; purchased by plaintiff resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 63 said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (e) PCGS Coin Number 8041794, originally graded M.S. 65; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 64, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (f) PCGS Coin Number 7110569, originally graded M.S. 66; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through and agent for regrading, it was returned ungradeable, said ungrading adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is

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PCGS Coin Number 8035447, originally graded M.S. 63; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 64, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.

- (h) PCGS Coin Number 1278325, originally graded M.S. 66; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 64, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (i) PCGS Coin Number 2250475, originally graded M.S. 65; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 64, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (j) PCGS Coin Number 6077910, originally graded M.S. 64; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 63, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- (k) PCGS Coin Number 8046204, originally graded M.S. 63; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent 24 for regrading as MS. 62, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
 - (1) PCGS Coin Number 6077928, originally graded M.S. 63; purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent

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for regrading as MS. 62, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.

- (m) PCGS Coin Number 6078039, originally graded M.S. 63, purchased by plaintiff on 9/29/88 resubmitted through an agent for regrading as MS. 62, said lower grading has adversely effected the value of said coin in an amount not yet ascertained, plaintiff will amend to set forth the loss when it is known.
- 46. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that by reason of said insider over grading, defendants Hall, Halperin, Ivy and Does 1 through 20, inclusive, engaged in and committed a violation of 18 U.S.C. §1961 in that said fraudulently graded coins were upon information and belief, placed into interstate commerce by United States mail by PCGS.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that after original grading said coins were placed into interstate commerce through the use of the United States mail and/or offered for sale through the United States mails and /or interstate wire service ("ANE") owned and operated by a wholly owned affiliate of PCGS and with full knowledge of PCGS. Said false and fraudulently graded coins were not of the values as represented, and all in violation of 18 U.S.C. §1341 and §1343.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, 24 that the beneficiaries of said insider over grading and the 25 resultant acts of mail and wire fraud occurring thereby are, 26 without limitation, include William Spears, Joe Flynn, James 27 Halperin, David Hall, the David Hall Group, Steven Ivy, Heritage 28 Capital Corporation, and others sued herein as Does 11 - 17, the

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exact names of which are presently unascertained by plaintiff who will ask leave of court to amend this complaint to set forth same when fully ascertained.

- (i) PCGS has stated, and plaintiff believes that PCGS maintains lists, by coin number, of the submittor of each coin graded by PCGS and that PCGS knows specifically which coin was submitted by which PCGS member for grading and that defendants David Hall and PCGS has information superior to that of the plaintiff herein as to which specific insider submitted for grading each of the specific coins identified in paragraph 45. a. - m. hereof.
- Plaintiff did acquire various such coins and did invest thousands of dollars, the exact amount of which is presently unknown but exceeds \$10,000.00. Plaintiff will ask leave of court to amend this complaint to state said amount, according to proof at 16 the time of trial.
- 50. Plaintiff is informed and believes that as a result of 18 the violations of 18 U.S.C. §1341, and §1343 sum not yet 19 ascertained but exceeds \$10,000.00. Plaintiff will ask leave of court to amend this complaint when same are ascertained, or 21 according to proof at time of trial.
 - 51. Plaintiff will request that damages, when ascertained, be trebled as provided in 18 U.S.C. §1964, and that attorney fees be awarded.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

PENDENT STATE CLAIMS

52. On or about July 14, 1988, and to and including July 20, 28 1988, plaintiff delivered to Doe 2, acting for defendants Ivy,

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Halperin, Hall and Heritage, gold and silver coins for an agreed upon sum of \$807,378. Said coins are itemized on Exhibit "A" hereof, and incorporated hereat by this reference.

- Neither whole nor any part of said sum has been paid, and there is presently due, owing and payable from defendants Ivy, Halperin, Hall and Heritage to plaintiff the sum of \$807,378.
- 54. PCGS is a business enterprise presently operated through another entity, sued herein as Doe 1. Plaintiff is informed and believes that Doe 1 is owned by defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin. The business of PCGS consists of the grading, by appraisal, of valuable coins, sealing the coin so appraised in an impenetrable plastic casing with its appraisal and guaranteeing the value of the coin to be as graded based upon the then current market value for such coins of said grade.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges 55. that each and all of the defendants herein, in doing the act or actions herein alleged, were acting in consort with, and as the agents, employees, or representatives of each and all of their codefendants.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges 56. that Heritage was and is a mere sham and shell organized and operated as the alter ego of the individual defendants, Steven Ivy and James Halperin, for their personal benefit and advantage in that the individual defendants have at all times herein mentioned exercised total dominion and control over the corporate defendant and that the individual defendants were and are the only significant shareholders of the corporation. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and hereon alleges, that the individual defendants,

Steven Ivy and James Halperin, and the corporate defendant,

Heritage have so intermingled their personal and financial affairs

that the corporate defendant was and is the alter ego of the said

individual defendants such that an injustice will result if the

theoretical entity of the corporate defendant is not disregarded

and the individual defendant's held liable for the indebtedness of

the corporate defendant.

57. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges that PCGS was and is a mere sham and shell organized and operated as the alter ego of the individual defendants David Hall, Steven Ivy and James Halperin for their personal benefit and advantage in that said individual defendants have at all times herein mentioned exercised total dominion and control over PCGS. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges that the individual defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin and the corporate defendant PCGS have so intermingled their personal and financial affairs that the corporate defendant PCGS was and is the alter ego of defendant David Hall and that an injustice will result of the theoretical entity of the corporate defendant is not disregarded and the individual defendant David Hall be held liable for the indebtedness of the corporate defendant.

COUNT THREE

(Against Defendants Heritage, Steven Ivy And James Halperin For Goods Sold And Delivered)

- 58. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 57 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
 - 59. Within two years, on or about July 14 through July 20,

1988, defendant Heritage as the alter ego of defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, became indebted to plaintiff for goods sold and delivered by plaintiff to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, who then and there agreed to pay the sum of \$807,378 for said goods.

60. Neither the whole nor any part of the above sum has been paid although demand therefore has been made and there is now due, owing and unpaid from defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin to plaintiff the sum of \$807,378, together with interest thereon at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 20, 1988.

COUNT FOUR

(For Breach Of Oral Contract Against Defendants Heritage, Ivy nd Halperin)

- 61. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 60 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 62. On or about July 20, 1988, plaintiff and defendants
 Heritage, Ivy and Halperin entered into an oral agreement whereby
 plaintiff agreed to sell and deliver antique gold and silver coins
 having an agreed value of \$807,378, and defendants Heritage, Ivy
 and Halperin agreed to pay the specific sum of \$807,378 for said
 coins.
- 63. Plaintiff has performed all conditions, covenants and promises required by him on his part to be performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract and said coins were delivered to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin by plaintiff through plaintiff's agent on or about July 20, 1988.
 - 64. On or about July 20, 1988, defendants breached the oral

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agreement by failing and refusing to pay the sum agreed upon, notwithstanding that defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin took possession of said gold and silver coins, and have acknowledged receipt thereof and now refuse to either forthwith pay the said agreed sum of \$807,378 or to return the coins, notwithstanding demand therefore having been made.

As a direct and proximate result of the breach of contract by defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, plaintiff has been damaged in the sum of \$807,378 plus interest thereon at the legal rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 20, 1988 until said sum is paid.

COUNT FIVE

(For Slander Per Se Against Defendants Professional Coin Grading Service, David Hall, Steven Ivy, James Halperin, Heritage Capital Corporation,

And Does 1 Through 10, Inclusive)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 65 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges 67. that commencing on or about July 14, 1988 defendants David Hall, 26 acting individually and for and on behalf of defendant PCGS and defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, acting individually and for and on behalf of defendant Heritage, and defendants Does 1

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through 10, inclusive, published both by speaking and upon information and belief, in written form, the following words, of and concerning the plaintiff:

- (a) Defendant Hall published allegations that PCGS's security system had been breached and that between two hundred and five hundred coins were allegedly being fraudulently sold as having been analyzed, graded and sealed by PCGS but which coins, in fact, were not analyzed, graded and sealed by PCGS.
- (b) Defendant Hall, together with defendants Ivy and Halperin, and defendants Does 1 through 10 orally published an accusation associating plaintiff with said fraudulent coins essentially telling people with whom plaintiff did business, and who then owed plaintiff money, in connection with coins sold by plaintiff that such persons should not do business with plaintiff. Said named defendants further stated that plaintiff has been selling fraudulent coins.
- (c) Defendant Hall, individually, and defendants Ivy and Halperin, did further orally publish statements accusing plaintiff of being under investigation by the FBI for criminal and/or fraudulent conduct relating to the sale of the fraudulent coins. Said defendants, along with defendants Does 1 through 10, further advised people with whom plaintiff was engaged in a business relationship not to pay plaintiff for any coins he has sold, not to do business with plaintiff because he was engaged in fraudulennt coin sales and further stated that they were going to "close him down".
- 68. These words were heard by Joel Rettew, Charles 28 Anestasia, Steven Ivy, James Halperin, John Highfill, Heritage

Capital Corporation and other persons not presently known to plaintiff.

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- These words were slanderous per se because they attack plaintiff in his reputation in business and impugn to plaintiff criminal acts and fraudulent acts.
- The words uttered were false because plaintiff has not altered any of the PCGS packaging, nor has plaintiff ever knowingly sold any coin in an altered PCGS package. Moreover, PCGS has placed in the marketplace packaged coins with gross errors in grading which plaintiff is informed and believes may constitute some of the allegedly fraudulent coins to which defendant Hall refereed as set forth in allegations set forth in Paragraph 53, above.
- The words carry a defamatory meaning because, the market value for any given coin is effected by the grading of said coin by PCGS. If a PCGS graded coin has been altered or substituted, the buyer will receive a coin having a value other than as represented by the grade of the coin set forth on the tag accompanying the coin in the sealed plastic container. If a coin merchant is accused of selling fraudulently grade or pacheyed coins, no one hearing and believing said accusation will do business with such person since they cannot rely upon the value of the coins being sold by such person.
- The words were understood by those who read and/or heard 72. them in a way that defamed plaintiff because, a fraudulent coin means that either the integrity of the plastic packaging has been damaged and the coin has been replaced or substituted for ther 28 coin, or the integrity of the plastic packaging has been

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compromised and the paper tag showing the grading of the coin has been altered or substituted In either way, the purchaser of the said coin is not getting that which is being represented as a PCGS specifically graded coin.

- 73. As a result of the above described words, plaintiff has suffered general damages to his reputation in the sum of \$10,000,000.
- 74. As a further proximate result of the above described words, plaintiff has suffered the following special damages:
- (a) Defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin have failed and refused, and continue to fail and refuse to pay the sum of \$807,374 due and owing for coins sold to said defendants by plaintiff;
- (b) Defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin have failed and refused, and continue to fail and refuse to pay the sum of 16 \$84,310 due and owing for coins sold to said defendants by 17 | plaintiff;
- (c) Plaintiff has been unable to engage in plaintiff's 19 business, trade and profession, because no one in the coin business 20 will buy from or sell to plaintiff. Plaintiff is informed and 21 believes, and thereon alleges that the total cessation of his 22 business from and after July 20, 1988 is directly attributable to the allegations made against him as hereinabove set forth and his entire business has ceased, all to his injury in the sum of 25 \$10,000,000.
 - 75. The above described words were spoken by defendant Hall and with malice, oppression and a reckless disregard for plaintiff's rights. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and

thereon alleges, that he has been made a scapegoat by defendants in order to establish a focus of blame and to shift the attention from PCGS' internal errors which, if known to the community of coin traders, would adversely affect the marketplace since it would become difficult to rely upon the grading of PCGS to determine the value of a coin. By reason of such intentional, malicious and oppressive acts of the defendants and each of them, plaintiff is entitled to an award of exemplary and punitive damages in the amount of \$10,000,000.

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COUNT SIX

(For Intentional Infliction Of Emotional Distress Against Defendants Hall, PCGS, Ivy, Halperin, Heritage, And Does 1 Through 10, Inclusive)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 75 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that in doing the acts hereinabove alleged, defendants intended to cause plaintiff great emotional distress. As a proximate result of the acts of defendants, and each of them as hereinabove described, plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain emotional distress and mental suffering, not limited to sleepless nights, anxiety, nightmares and eating disorders, all to plaintiff's general damages 24 in an amount not yet ascertained. Plaintiff will seek leave of this court to amend this complaint when same are ascertained.
- As a further direct and proximate result of said 27 conduct, plaintiff will incur medical and incidental expenses relating to the distress, the exact amount not yet ascert and and

plaintiff will seek leave of this court to amend this complaint when same are ascertained.

79. By reason of the intentional acts of defendants, defendants, and each of them, acting with malice and oppression, designed to cause plaintiff mental and emotional distress.

Defendants, and each of them, are liable to plaintiff for exemplary and punitive damages in the sum of \$10,000,000.

COUNT SEVEN

(For Negligent Infliction Of Emotional Distress)

- 80. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 79 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 81. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that each and all of the representations hereinabove set forth were made by defendants, and each of them, without any justification or fact, or without any knowledge, information or evidence to support any of the defendants' claims as alleged in Paragraph 21, herein. As a direct and proximate result of the recklessness of the defendants, and each of them, in making the allegations as set forth in Paragraph 53, 53(a), 53(b), 53(c) and in making said allegations without any factual basis therefore, defendants and each of them were grossly negligent.
- 82. As a direct and proximate result of the recklessness of the conduct of defendants and each of them plaintiff has sustained damage to his reputation in the business community, has sustained monetary damages in a sum in excess of approximately \$900,000 and has sustained severe anguish and anxiety, mental and emotional distress, discomfort, pain and suffering, all to his general

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damages in a sum to be ascertained at the time of trial. Plaintiff will ask leave of the court to amend this complaint to set forth the same when ascertained.

As a direct and proximate result of the actions of the defendants, and each of them, plaintiff is informed and thereon alleges that he will sustain medical and incidental expenses relating to and in connection with the emotional distress herein alleged, in an amount not yet fully ascertained, and plaintiff will ask leave of the court to amend this complaint to set forth the amount of special and incidental damages sustained, including but not limited to those for medical practitioners when same are ascertained.

COUNT EIGHT

(For Conversion Against Defendants Ivy, Halperin, Heritage, Hall And PCGS)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 83 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges 85. that on or about July 22, 1988, defendants Ivy and Halperin, for and on behalf of defendant Heritage did convey, transfer and deliver to David Hall and PCGS each and every item of personal property described upon Exhibit "A" hereof, attached hereto and incorporated hereat by this reference having a value of \$807,378 and other coins referred to in Paragraph hereof having a value of \$84,310.
- Plaintiff alleges that said items, having not been paid for, are the personal property of plaintiff.

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- Demand for the immediate return of plaintiff's property 87. has been made upon defendants Hall, PCGS, Ivy, Halperin and Heritage, and said defendants, each and all, have refused to return said items, but have converted same to their own use and benefit, in derogation of plaintiff's rights thereto.
- As a direct and proximate result of the conversion of said items of personal property, plaintiff has been deprived of the use and benefit of same, and defendants, and each of them, have been unjustly enriched by the use and benefit of same, all to plaintiff's damages in the sum of \$891,688.

COUNT NINE

(For Claim And Delivery Against Heritage, Ivy, Halperin, Hall And PCGS)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 89. through 88 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that, in the absence of payment for personal property identified and listed on Exhibit "A" hereof, having a value of \$807,378 and as described in Paragraph 18 j hereof and incorporated hereat by this reference, having a value of \$84,310, plaintiff is the true and only owner of said items.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, 91. that defendants PCGS, Hall, Heritage, Ivy and/or Halperin, and Does 11 through 20, inclusive, claim an interest in and title to said items of personal property adverse to the claims of plaintiff.
- 92. Plaintiff has demanded return of the personal property 28 from defendants named herein, and defendants have failed and

refused, and continue to fail and refuse to deliver to plaintiff said items. COUNT TEN (For Goods Sold And Delivered) Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 93. through 92 hereat as though fully set forth at this place. Within two years and before July 14, 1988, defendant 94. Heritage as the alter ego of defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, became indebted to plaintiff for goods sold and delivered by plaintiff to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, who then and there agreed to pay the sum of \$84,310 for said goods. 95. Neither the whole nor any part of the above sum has been paid although demand therefore has been made and there is now due, owing and unpaid from defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin to plaintiff the sum of \$84,310, together with interest thereon at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 1, 1988. WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as follows: For general damages according to proof; For special damages according to proof; 2. For punitive damages according to proof; 3. For the immediate return of plaintiff's personal 4. property; For attorney's fees incurred in connection with the 5. recovery of said personal property; For costs of suit incurred herein; and 6.

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For such other and further relief as the court may deem

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3	DATED: January 5, 1989 KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS
4	10, 20
5	ROBERT M. ROSS Attorneys for Plaintiff
6	Gary Fernandez
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8	DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
9	TON CONT TRIAL
10	Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.
11	
12	DATED: January 5, 1989 KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS
13	By Tobert M Toss ROBERT M. ROSS
14 15	Attorneys for Plaintiff Gary Fernandez
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(May be used in California State or Federal Courts)

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FILED ERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT RAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SANTA ANA OFFICE DEPUTY

Martin J. Elgison 1201 West Peachtree Street Atlanta, GA 30309-3424

Attorneys for Defendant DAVID HALL and Defendant and Counterclaimant PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE, INC.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Plaintiff,

DAVID HALL; PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE, a California corporation; STEVEN IVY; JAMES HALPERIN; HERITAGE CAPITAL) CORPORATION, a Texas corporation;) and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive,)

Defendants.

AND RELATED COUNTERCLAIMS

Case No. CV 88-556JSL(RWRx)

ANSWER OF DEFENDANTS DAVID HALL AND PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE TO SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT

......

Defendants David Hall ("Hall") and Professional Coin Grading Service ("PCGS") (collectively "defendants") answer the second amended complaint (hereinafter "complaint") filed herein as follows:

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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 1, defendants deny that this action arises under 18 U.S.C. Sections 1961 and 1962 and that this Court has jurisdiction under and by virtue of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961 et seq.
- 2. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 2, defendants admit that the place of residence of defendant David Hall ("Hall") is in this district, that this district is the district in which defendant Professional Coin Grading Service ("PCGS") has its corporate offices, and that this is a district within which Heritage Capital Corporation ("Heritage") does business. Except as expressly so admitted, defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 2.

PARTIES

- 3. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 3, defendants admit that at all material times plaintiff was and now is a resident of the State of California, County of Alameda, and that at all material times plaintiff was doing business throughout the State of California and the United States as a rare coin dealer. Except as expressly so admitted, defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of paragraph 3.
- 4. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 4, defendants admit that PCGS is, and at all material times was, a California corporation, doing business throughout the United States. PCGS has its principal place of business in Costa Mesa, County of Orange, State of California. Except as expressly so

admitted or alleged, defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 4.

- 5. Defendants admit the allegations of paragraph 5.
- 6. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 6, defendants allege that Heritage does business throughout the State of California, including Newport Beach, California, and deny that Heritage is an enterprise within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(4). Except as expressly so alleged or denied, defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of paragraph 6.
 - 7. Defendants admit the allegations of paragraph 7.
- 8. Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of paragraph 8.
- 9. Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of paragraph 9.
- 10. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 10.
- 11. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 11.
- dated February 7, 1989 separating and staying the trial on Counts One and Two from the trial on the remaining counts, and in accordance with the agreement of all parties as to the effect of such order on the scope of defendants' Answer herein, defendants do not at this time answer any of the allegations of

the complaint concerning plaintiff's alleged RICO claims.

Defendants reserve their right to Answer such RICO claims after the conclusion of the trial of the remaining counts, under a schedule determined by the Court or agreed between the parties. Defendants' failure to respond to paragraphs 12 through 51, inclusive, of the complaint shall in no way be construed as an admission of any of the allegations contained therein. To the extent that any of the allegations of paragraphs 12 through 51, inclusive, are incorporated by reference into counts three through ten, or any of them, all such allegations are denied.

PENDENT STATE LAW CLAIMS

- 52. Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of paragraph 52.
- 53. Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of paragraph 53.
- 54. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 54, defendants admit that the business of PCGS consists of the grading, by appraisal, of rare coins, sealing the coins so appraised in a plastic casing with its appraisal, and guaranteeing the value of the coin to be as graded based upon the then current market value for coins of such grade. Except as expressly so admitted, defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 54.
- 55. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 55.

56. Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of paragraph 56.

57. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 57.

ANSWER TO COUNT THREE

58-60. Defendants make no admissions, denials, or allegations to Count Three because such claim does not purport to state a claim against defendants.

ANSWER TO COUNT FOUR

61-65. Defendants make no admissions, denials, or allegations to Count Four because such claim does not purport to state a claim against defendants.

ANSWER TO COUNT FIVE

66. Defendants reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 hereof as though fully set forth herein.

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67-68. In answer to the allegations of paragraphs 67 and 68, defendants allege that on or about July 14, 1988 and thereafter Hall, on behalf of PCGS, stated to Joel Rettew and/or Charles Anestasia and/or John Highfill and/or Steven Ivy and/or James Halperin, among others, that PCGS's security system had been breached and that between 200 and 500 coins were being sold as having been analyzed, graded and sealed by PCGS but which coins in fact were not analyzed, graded and sealed by PCGS (hereinafter the "bad coins"), and that plaintiff and Brian Fazio had sold bad coins and that they should take care both with respect to coins purchased from plaintiff and/or Fazio and as to coins from any other source that they were not bad coins.

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Defendants further allege that at various times after July 14, 1988 they made statements both orally and in writing, to the persons mentioned herein, among others, to the effect that the issue of the bad coins was being investigated by the FBI. Except as expressly so alleged, defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraphs 67 and 68.

- 69. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 69.
- 70. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 70.
- 71. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 71, defendants admit that the market value for any given coin is affected by the grade assigned to said coin by PCGS; that if a PCGS graded coin has been altered or substituted, the buyer will receive a coin having a value other than as represented by the grade of the coin set forth in the tag accompanying the coin in the sealed plastic container; and that certain persons may refuse to do business with a person known or believed to have sold fraudulently graded or packaged coins. Except as expressly so alleged, defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 71.

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72. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 72, defendants allege that a fraudulent PCGS coin means that the plastic packaging has been destroyed and a coin of lesser value placed in a counterfeit holder with the genuine PCGS insert, or the coin removed from the destroyed holder has been placed in a counterfeit holder with a counterfeit PCGS insert bearing a grade higher than the grade on the original PCGS insert, or a

coin obtained from another source has been inserted in a counterfeit holder with a counterfeit insert which assigns a grade to the coin higher than the grade which would have been assigned by PCGS had it been graded by PCGS. Defendants allege further that, in any of the circumstances described above, the purchaser of the coin is not getting that which is being represented as a PCGS graded coin. Except as expressly so alleged, defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 72.

- 73. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 73.
- 74. Defendants deny each and every allegation of subparagraph (c) of paragraph 74. Defendants further deny that plaintiff has suffered any damages as a result of the words alleged. Except as expressly so denied, defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of subparagraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph 74.

75. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 75.

ANSWER TO COUNT SIX

- 76. Defendants reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 75 hereof as though fully set forth herein.
- 77. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 77.
- 78. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 78.

79. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 79.

ANSWER TO COUNT SEVEN

- 80. Defendants reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 79 hereof as though fully set forth herein.
- 81. Defendants deny each and every allegation contained in paragraph 81.
- 82. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 82.
- 83. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 83.

ANSWER TO COUNT EIGHT

- 84. Defendants reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 83 hereof as if fully set forth herein.
- 85. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 85, defendants allege that Heritage delivered to PCGS certain of the coins described on Exhibit A to the complaint, to enable PCGS to determine whether the coins were in counterfeit PCGS holders, and that all such coins were returned to Heritage. Except as expressly so alleged, defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 85.

- 86. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 86.
- 87. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 87, defendants admit that plaintiff has made a demand for the return of its alleged property. Defendants further allege that all coins received from Heritage, as referred to in paragraph 85 hereof, were returned to Heritage. Except as expressly so

WATKINS AT LAW admitted or alleged, defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 87.

88. Defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 88.

ANSWER TO COUNT NINE

- 89. Defendants reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1 through 88 hereof as though fully set forth herein.
- 90. Defendants deny each and every allegation contained in paragraph 90.
- 91. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 91, defendants allege that defendant PCGS claims an interest in all the coins in counterfeit PCGS holders, as set forth in its counterclaim filed herein. Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations of paragraph 91 as they concern Heritage, Ivy and/or Halperin. Except as expressly so alleged, defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 91.

92. In answer to the allegations of paragraph 92, defendants admit that plaintiff has demanded return of his alleged property from defendants, and allege that defendants are not in possession of any property belonging to plaintiff.

Except as expressly so admitted or alleged, defendants deny each and every allegation of paragraph 92.

ANSWER TO COUNT TEN

93-95. Defendants make no admissions, denials, or allegations to Count Ten because such claim does not purport to state a claim against defendants.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE TO ALL CLAIMS

96. The alleged claims, and each of them, fail to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE TO ALL CLAIMS

(Justification and Privilege)

97. Defendants' alleged actions respecting the subject matters alleged in the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth claims in the complaint were undertaken in good faith, in the absence of malicious intent to injure plaintiff, and constitute lawful, proper and justified means to further their sole purpose of engaging in and continuing the business of defendant PCGS, thus barring recovery by plaintiff on any of such claims.

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENDANT TO ALL CLAIMS (Privilege)

98. Defendants are informed and believe, and thereupon allege, that all statements alleged in the complaint to have been made by them, or either or them, if such statements are found to have been made, were made without malice to persons interested therein, by a person also interested, or by a person standing in such relation to the person interested as to afford a reasonable ground for supposing the motive for the communication innocent, or by a person who was requested by the person interested to give the information, and are, therefore, privileged under the provisions of California Civil Code Section 47(3).

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FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE TO FIFTH CLAIM

(Privilege)

With respect to plaintiff's alleged claim for slander, defendants are informed and believe, and thereupon allege, that the alleged statements by them of which plaintiff complains, if such statements are found to have been made, were made without malice to persons interested therein, by a person also interested, or by a person who stands in such relation to the person interested as to afford a reasonable ground for supposing the motive for the communication innocent, or by a person who was requested by the person interested to give the information, and are, therefore, privileged under the provisions of California Civil Code Section 47(3).

FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE TO FIFTH CLAIM (Truth)

With respect to plaintiff's alleged claim for 100. slander, defendants are informed and believe, and thereupon allege, that the alleged statements by them of which plaintiff complains, if such statements are found to have been made, are in fact true.

SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE TO ALL CLAIMS

(Unclean Hands)

Plaintiff is barred from maintaining his alleged 101. claims, or any of them, against defendants, or either of them, by the doctrine of unclean hands, on the grounds set forth in defendant PCGS's counterclaim herein.

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SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE TO ALL CLAIMS

102. Plaintiff has failed to exercise reasonable diligence in mitigating the damages he claims to have suffered.

EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE TO FIFTH AND SIXTH CLAIMS

(Civil Code § 3294)

103. Plaintiff is precluded from recovering punitive damages from defendants, or either of them, either in whole or in part, under the applicable provisions of California Civil Code § 3294, or such other statute to similar effect as may be applicable.

WHEREFORE, defendants pray judgement as follows:

- 1. That plaintiff take nothing by his Complaint and that the same be dismissed with prejudice;
- 2. For defendants' costs herein, including reasonable attorneys' fees; and
- 3. For such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

DATED: February 27, 1989

LATHAM & WATKINS

Peter J. Wilson

Attorneys for Defendants

DAVID HALL and PROFESSIONAL COIN

GRADING SERVICE, INC.

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I am employed in the County of Orange, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is that of Latham & Watkins as set forth on the first page of the document to which this Proof is attached.

I served the below listed document(s) described as:

ANSWER OF DEFENDANTS DAVID HALL AND PROFESSIONAL COIN GRADING SERVICE TO SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT]

on February 27, 1989 on all other parties to this action by placing a [xx] true copy [] original of the above document enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:

Robert M. Ross, Esq. KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS 10850 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 500 Los Angeles, CA 90024

William J. Reifman, Esq. Mayer, Brown & Platt 355 S. Grand Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90071

Service.

[xx] I placed such envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid for deposit in the United States mail in accordance with the office practice of Latham & Watkins for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service. I am familiar with the office practice of Latham & Watkins for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service, which practice is that when correspondence is deposited with the Latham & Watkins personnel responsible for delivering correspondence to the United States Postal Service, such correspondence is delivered to the United States Postal Service that same day in the ordinary course of business.

Executed on February 27, 1989, at Costa Mesa, California.

[xxx] (Federal) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose direction the service was made.

Sandra Greenfield

WATKINS B AT LAW

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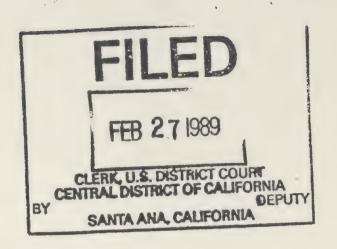
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MAYER, BROWN & PLATT
WILLIAM J. REIFMAN
RICHARD A. MCDONALD
355 South Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90071
(213) 229-9500

ARMEN VARTIAN, ESQ. 250 West 57th Street, Suite 1216 New York, New York 10019



Attorneys For Defendants And Cross-Complainants HERITAGE CAPITAL CORPORATION, STEVEN IVY and JAMES HALPERIN

FEB 2 7 1989

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

GARY FERNANDEZ,

Plaintiff,

VS.

DAVID HALL; PROFESSIONAL COIN)
GRADING SERVICE, a California)
corporation; STEVEN IVY; JAMES)
HALPERIN; HERITAGE CAPITAL)
CORPORATION, a Texas)
corporation; and DOES 1)
through 20, inclusive,)

Defendants.

AND RELATED COUNTERCLAIMS.

CASE NO. SA-CV 88-556 (JSL) (RWRX)

ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES OF DEFENDANTS HERITAGE CAPITAL CORPORATION, STEVEN IVY AND JAMES HALPERIN

Defendants and cross-complainants Heritage Capital

Corporation ("Heritage"), Steven Ivy and James Halperin

(collectively "Defendants") admit, deny, and otherwise answer the pendent state-law claims and allegations in the Second Amended

Complaint of plaintiff Gary Fernandez as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. Defendants deny that this action arises under 18 U.S.C. §§1961-1962 and that this Court has jurisdiction under and by virtue of 18 U.S.C. §§1961, et. seq.

2. Defendants admit that Professional Coin Grading Service ("PCGS") has its corporate offices in this District, that Heritage does business in this District, and that the place of residence of David Hall ("Hall") is in this District. Except as expressly admitted herein, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 2.

PARTIES

- 3. Defendants admit that plaintiff Gary Fernandez does business as a rare coin dealer in California and elsewhere within the United States. Further answering, Defendants deny having knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 3.
- 4. Defendants deny that PCGS is an "enterprise" under 18 U.S.C. § 1961(4). Further answering, Defendants admit the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 4.
- Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph
- 6. Defendants admit that Heritage is a Texas corporation and that it does business in various parts of California.

 Further answering, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 6.
- Defendants admit the allegations contained in Paragraph
 .

- 8. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 8 for lack of sufficient information and belief to answer.
- 9. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph9 for lack of sufficient information and belief to answer.
- 10. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph
 10 for lack of sufficient information and belief to answer.
- 11. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph
 11.
- Pursuant to the Court's February 7, 1989 Order 12-51. staying the trial on Counts One and Two of plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint, the parties agreed on February 14, 1989 that Defendants are not required at this time to answer the RICO allegations contained in Paragraphs 12 through 51 of plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint. Defendants reserve their right to answer plaintiff's RICO claims and allegations after the trial on the remaining counts alleged in his Second Amended Complaint and pursuant to a schedule agreed upon by the Court and the parties. Defendants' lack of response to Paragraphs 12 through 51 shall in no way be contrued as an admission of any of the allegations contained therein, and, to the extent that any of the allegations contained in Paragraphs 12 through 51 are incorporated by reference into the remaining counts of plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint, any and all such allegations are denied.

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PENDENT STATE-LAW CLAIMS

- 52. Defendants admit that on or about July 14, 1988 and to and including July 20, 1988, plaintiff delivered certain gold and silver coins to Heritage. Except as expressly admitted herein, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 52.
- 53. Defendants admit that they have not paid plaintiff \$807,378.00, but deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 53.
- 54. Defendants admit that the business of PCGS involves the grading, by appraisal, of valuable coins, sealing the coin so appraised in on impenetrable plastic casing with its appraisal and guaranteeing the value of the coin to be as graded based upon the then current market value for such coins of said grade.

 Defendants deny that PCGS is an "enterprise" for purposes of the RICO statute. Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in paragraph 54 for lack of sufficient information and belief to answer.
- 55. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 55.
- 56. Defendants admit that Ivy and Halperin are the only shareholders of Heritage. Further answering, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 56.
- 57. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 57.

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ANSWER TO COUNT THREE

- 58. Defendants incorporate herein their responses to
 Paragraphs 1 through 11, and 52 through 57 of plaintiff's Second
 Amended Complaint as if set forth in full herein.
- 59. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 59.
- 60. Defendants admit that plaintiff has demanded various sums from them which have not been paid, but deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 60.

ANSWER TO COUNT FOUR

- 61. Defendants incorporate herein their responses to
 Paragraphs 1 through 11, and 52 through 60 of plaintiff's Second
 Amended Complaint as if set forth in full herein.
- 62. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 62 that relate to Ivy and Halperin. Further answering, Defendants admit the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 62.
- 63. Defendants admit that certain coins were delivered to Heritage through plaintiff's agent on or about July 20, 1988, but deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 63.
- 64. Defendants admit that plaintiff has demanded certain sums from them which have not been paid, but deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 64.
- 65. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 65.

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ANSWER TO COUNT FIVE

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Defendants incorporate herein their responses to Paragraphs 1 through 11, and 52 through 65 of plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint as if set forth in full herein.

67(a)-(c). Defendants admit that commencing on or about July 14, 1988, Ivy and Halperin stated orally to various other persons that (1) plaintiff was selling coins which were represented to have been graded by PCGS but which had not, in fact, been graded by PCGS; (2) plaintiff was under investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("F.B.I.") in connection with his sale of coins falsely represented to have been graded by PCGS; and (3) those persons should take care not to purchase coins from plaintiff which had been falsely represented to be PCGS coins. Further answering, Defendants deny having sufficient knowledge or information to form a belief as to the allegations pertaining to DOES 1 through 10 or Hall, and further deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 67.

- Defendants admit that Ivy and Halperin heard their own oral statements and that statements were made by Ivy and Halperin to Joel Rettew, Charles Anastasia, John Highfill and others. Further answering, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 68.
- Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 69.
- Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 70. 70.
- Defendants admit that the market value of a coin may be affected by whether it is a true PCGS coin or a coin in a

1 substitute or altered PCGS package, and that some persons may refuse to do business with a dealer known to have sold coins in 2 3 altered or substitute PCGS packages. Further answering, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 4 5 71. Defendants admit that the purchaser of a coin in an 6 7 altered or substituted PCGS package is not getting that which is being represented as a PCGS specifically graded coin. Except as 8 9 expressly admitted herein, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 72. 10 11

73. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph
73.

74(a)-(c). Defendants admit that they have not paid plaintiff the sums demanded, but deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 74.

75. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 75.

ANSWER TO COUNT SIX

- 76. Defendants incorporate herein their responses to
 Paragraphs 1 through 11, and 52 through 75 of plaintiff's Second
 Amended Complaint as if set forth in full herein.
- 77. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph
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- 78. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph
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- 79. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph
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ANSWER TO COUNT SEVEN

80. Defendants incorporate herein their responses to
Paragraphs 1 through 11, and 52 through 79 of plaintiff's Second
Amended Complaint as if set forth in full herein.

- 81. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 81.
- 82. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph
 82.
- 83. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph
 83.

ANSWER TO COUNT EIGHT

- 84. Defendants incorporate herein their responses to
 Paragraphs 1 through 11, and 52 through 83 of plaintiff's Second
 Amended Complaint as if set forth in full herein.
- 85. Defendants admit that Heritage loaned several of the coins identified in Exhibit A to plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint to PCGS so that the coins could be examined by P.C.G.S. and/or the F.B.I., and that those coins were later returned to Heritage. Further answering, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 85.
- 86. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph
 86.
- 87. Defendants admit that plaintiff has demanded the retur: of the coins identified in Exhibit A to his Second Amended Complaint and that Defendants have not returned those coins to him. Further answering, Defendants deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 87.

1 88. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 88. 2 3 ANSWER TO COUNT NINE 4 Defendants incorporate herein their responses to 5 Paragraphs 1 through 11, and 52 through 88 of plaintiff's Second 6 7 Amended Complaint as if set forth in full herein. Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 8 9 90. 10 91. Defendants admit that Heritage and PCGS claim an interest in the coins identified in Exhibit A to plaintiff's 11 12 Second Amended Complaint, but deny the remaining allegations 13 contained in Paragraph 91. 14 Defendants admit that plaintiff has demanded the return 15 of the coins identified in Exhibit A to his Second Amended 16 Complaint and that Defendants have not returned those coins to 17 Further answering, Defendants deny the remaining 18 allegations contained in Paragraph 92. 20 ANSWER TO COUNT TEN

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- 93. Defendants incorporate herein their responses to Paragraphs 1 through 11, and 52 through 92 of plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint as if set forth in full herein.
- Defendants deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 94.
- Defendants admit that plaintiff has demanded certain sums from them which have not been paid, but deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 95.

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Failure To State A Claim For Relief)

96. Counts Three and Four of plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint fail to state claims for relief against defendants Ivy and Halperin because neither Ivy or Halperin transacted any business with plaintiff in a personal capacity and neither of them were ever indebted to plaintiff.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Unclean Hands)

97. Plaintiff's claims for relief alleged in Counts Three and Four of his Second Amended Complaint are barred by the doctrine of unclean hands in that plaintiff breached his contract with Defendants by, among other acts, delivering coins to Heritage that were represented to have been graded by PCGS when, in fact, they had not been graded by PCGS.

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Release)

98. Heritage turned over the coins identified in Exhibit A to plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint to the F.B.I. after those coins were subpoenaed in connection with the F.B.I.'s investigation of criminal allegations against plaintiff.

Heritage was, therefore, released from any and all obligation(s) it may have had either to pay plaintiff for said coins or to return said coins to plaintiff.

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1	FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
2	(Lack Of Defamatory Statements)
3	99. Any alleged statements made by Defendants concerning
4	plaintiff were not defamatory.
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6	FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
7	(Truth)
8	100. Any alleged statements made by Defendants concerning
9	plaintiff were true.
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11	SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
12	(Lack Of Malice)
13	101. Any alleged statements made by Defendants concerning
14	plaintiff were made without malice or ill-will.
15	
16	SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
17	(Statements Of Opinion)
18	102. Any alleged statements made by Defendants concerning
19	plaintiff were statements of opinion.
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21	EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
22	(Self-Interest)
23	103. Any alleged statements made by Defendants concerning
24	plaintiff were reasonably calculated to further and protect
25	Defendants' self-interest.
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NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Common Interest)

104. Any alleged statements made by Defendants concerning plaintiff were reasonably calculated to further and protect a common interest of Defendants and the recipients of any such statements.

TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Official Investigation)

105. Any alleged statements made by Defendants concerning plaintiff were made in connection with an official investigation by the F.B.I. and others of alleged criminal activities by plaintiff.

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ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Lack Of Intent)

106. Defendants' alleged conduct was not intended to cause, or done in reckless disregard of the probability of causing, severe emotional distress.

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TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Privilege)

107. Defendants' alleged conduct was privileged under the applicable statutes, including, but not limited to, Civil Code §47(3).

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THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Lack Of Possession)

108. Defendants Ivy and Halperin never took personal possession of or retained the coins identified in Exhibit A to plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint.

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FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Breach Of Express And Implied Warranty)

109. Plaintiff breached his express and implied warranties to Defendants by failing to deliver PCGS coins in the condition and grades as warranted at the time of contract.

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EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Failure To Mitigate Damages)

113. Plaintiff failed to use reasonable care or to take reasonable steps to mitigate the damages allegedly caused by Defendants. Therefore, any damages awarded to plaintiff should be reduced to the extent of his failure to mitigate.

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NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(California Commercial Code §2717)

114. Defendants are entitled to deduct the amount of the damages they incurred due to plaintiff's delivery of nonconforming PCGS coins from any amounts claimed by plaintiff to be due and owing to him from Defendants.

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WHEREFORE, Defendants pray that plaintiff take nothing by his Second Amendment Complaint, for costs of suit, for attorneys' fees, and for such other and further relief as this Court deems proper.

DATED: February 27, 1989

MAYER, BROWN & PLATT WILLIAM J. REIFMAN RICHARD A. MCDONALD

By William J. Reifman

Attorneys For Defendants And Cross-Complainants

HERITAGE CAPITAL CORPORATION, STEVEN IVY AND JAMES HALPERIN

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I, SEBASTIAN GOTELIF , declare:

- I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California by First Courier. I am over the age of 18 and am no a party to the within action. My business address is: 1511 W. Beverly, Los Angeles, California 90026.
- On February 27, 1989, I served the foregoing document described as ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE OF DEFENDANTS HERITAGE CAPITAL CORPORATION, STEVEN IVY AND JAMES HALPERIN on all interested parties in this action by placing a true copy enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:

Robert M. Ross, Esq. Klass, Helman & Ross 10850 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500 Los Angeles, California

I delivered such envelope by hand to the offices of the addressee. Executed on February 27, 1989, at Los Angeles, California.

[State] I delcare under penalty of perjury under the laws (the State of California that the above is true and correct.

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I. BEN HORSFALLdeclare:

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California by First Courier. I am over the age of 18 and am no a party to the within action. My business address is: Beverly, Los Angeles, California 90026.

2. On February 27, 1989, I served the foregoing document described as ANSWER AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE OF DEFENDANTS HERITAGE CAPITAL CORPORATION, STEVEN IVY AND JAMES HALPERIN on all interested parties in this action by placing a true copy enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed as follows:

Peter J. Wilson, Esq. Latham & Watkins 650 Town Center Drive, Suite 2000 Costa Mesa, CA 92626

I delivered such envelope by hand to the offices of the Executed on February 27, 1989, at Los Angeles, addressee. California.

[State] I delcare under penalty of perjury under the laws (the State of California that the above is true and correct.

ROBERT M. ROSS KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS 10850 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 500 Los Angeles, California 90024 213/277-2224

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT SEP 26 1988 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Attorneys for Plaintiff Gary Fernandez

Plaintiff.

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GARY FERNANDEZ,

13 V.

14 | DAVID HALL; PROFESSIONAL COIN

16 | CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Texas

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Section 1961 et seg.

Venue is founded in this judicial district upon 18

U.S.C. Section 1965(a) as the place of residence of defendant David

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT . CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Case No. SA CV88-556, COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES FOR VIOLATION OF 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1961 (CIVIL RICO); FOR GOODS

SOLD AND DELIVERED; BREACH OF ORAL CONTRACT; INTENTIONAL INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL

DISTRESS; NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS;

CONVERSION; CLAIM AND DELIVERY; AND PENDENT STATE COMMON COUNT CLAIMS

[DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL] [STATE CASE, ORANGE COUNTY

SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. 364410]

Defendants.

GRADING SERVICE, a California

Plaintiff alleges:

corporation; STEVEN IVY;

JAMES HALPERIN: HERITAGE

corporation; and DOES 1

through 20, inclusive,

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

Hall is in this district, as well as this being the district in which defendant Professional Coin Grading Service has its corpora offices, where plaintlir s coins have been seemed, and to a district within which Heritage Capital Corporation does business.

PARTIES

- 3. At all times herein mentioned, plaintiff Gary Fernande was and now is, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the State of California, County of Alameda, and at all times here mentioned was doing business throughout the state of California as the United States as a rare coin dealer.
- 4. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleged that Professional Coin Grading Service (hereinafter referred to as "PCGS") is, and at all times herein mentioned was, a California corporation, with its principal place of business in the County of Orange, City of Newport Beach, State of California. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that said corporation—does business throughout the United States and is an enterpriso within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(4).
- 5. Plaintiff is informed and-bolisves, and thereon alleges that defendant David Hall is a person whose residence is in the City of Newport Beach, County of Orange, State of California.
- that Heritage Capital Corporation (hereinafter referred to as "Heritage") is a corporation organized in the State of Texas and doing business throughout the State of California, including Newport Beach, California, and that Heritage is an enterprise within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(4).

- 7. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin are now, and at all times herein mentioned were, persons who are residents of the State of Texas.
- 8. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities and identities of defendants DOES 1 through 20 and therefore sues said defendants by such fictitious names, and will ask leave of court to amend this complaint and set forth the true names and capacities of said defendants when same are ascertained.
- 9. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that each of the Doe defendants were, and are, in some way liable for the losses hereinafter alleged to plaintiff, and plaintiff will amend this complaint to set forth the true nature of the acts and/or omissions of each said Doe defendant, proximately causing said loss to plaintiff when said loss is ascertained.
- that each of the individual defendants herein, including defendant:
 Does 1 through 20 were and are the agents, employees or
 representatives of PCGS and/or Heritage, and in doing the things
 herein alleged, were acting within the scope and agency of said
 employment.
- that each and all of the defendants herein, in doing the act or actions herein alleged, were acting in consort with, and as the agents, employees, or representatives of each and all of their codefendants.

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(RICO)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs ' through 11 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- At all times herein mentioned David Hall, Steven Ivy and James Halperin were and are "persons" within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(3) et seq.
- At all times herein mentioned Professional Coin Grading Service and Heritage Capital Corporation were enterprises engaged in the numismatic industry. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that PCGS was in the business of grading coins by appraisal. Plaintiff is further informed and believes that once graded (appraised) said coins are then sealed in a plastic 14 container with the grade (appraisal) affixed thereto with the express purpose and intent of placing the thus graded and encased coin into interstate commerce for sale and resale in the numismatic industry.
 - 15. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that Heritage Capital Corporation is an enterprise engaged in the business of buying and selling coins within the numismatic industry. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and thereon alleges that the price paid for or received by Heritage is, in part, determined by the grade (appraisal) of any specific coin being bought or sold by it.
- 16. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin did form an association and conspiracy to engage in and violate plaintiff's rights by the 28 conduct hereinafter expressly set forth.

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- Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges 17. that defendants Ivy, Halperin and Hall have engaged in at least five racketeering acts as prohibited by 18 U.S.C. 1961, et seq. as follows:
- (a) Within ten years last past, plaintiff is informed and believes that defendant Hall violated 18 U.S.C. Sections 471, 472, and 473 relating to counterfeiting;
- (b) Within ten years last past, plaintiff is informed and believes that defendant Ivy violated 18 U.S.C. Sections 2314 and 2315 relating to interstate transportation of stolen property;
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and theron alleges that defendants Ivy, Halperin and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, committed theft by fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1951, in that they fraudulently acquired coins and inventory of plaintiff, in interstate commerce, by making the following material misrepresentations of fact:
- On or about July 14, 1988, defendants (i) 18 Halperin and Ivy, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, represented to plaintiff and plaintiff's agents that they would pay the fair 20 market price of \$891,378 as agreed upon by the parties and set forth in Exhibit "A" hereof for gold and silver coins;
 - That defendants Halperin, Ivy and Does 2 (ii) through 5, inclusive, represented that they were acquiring said coins for, and on behalf of the enterprise known as Heritage Capital Corporation, in an arms length business transaction common within the numismatic industry;
 - (iii) That plaintiff would be paid the agreed upon sum of \$891,378 for the specified coins, payment upon delivery.

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(i) Defendants Ivy, Halperin, and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, acting in association and conspiracy with defendants Hall and Does 6 through 10, intended to acquire, without payment therefor, all of plaintiff's coin inventory for the purpose of putting plaintiff out of business, in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1952;

through 5, inclusive, acting as directors, officers, agents and employees or neritage, and acting at all times within the scope of such agency and employment, sought to deprive plaintiff of his property without any compensation whatsesver, and intended to and, in fact did, effect a theft of plaintiff's property having an approximate value at the time of said theft of the sum of \$891,378.

- (e) That after taking possession of plaintiff's coins, defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin violated 18 U.S. C. Sections 2314 and 2315 by transporting said stolen property from Ohio to the State of New York.
- 18. If plaintiff had known the true facts to be as set forth above, plaintiff would not have engaged in the transaction hereinabove alleged, nor would plaintiff have delivered said coins to Ivy, Halperin or Does 1 through 5.
- truth of the statements of defendants Ivy, Halperin and Does 2 through 5 in that said defendants and plaintiff have done business over a several year period in the past, and plaintiff has always been paid for coins purchased by said defendants.
 - 20. As a direct and proximate result of the theft by fraud

2 3 Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges 21. 4 that in accordance with the association between defendants Ivy, 5 Halperin, Does 2 through 5 and defendant Hall, and Does 6 through 10, acting as agents and employees of Professional Coin Grading 6 Service, an enterprise (as defined in 18 U.S.C. Section 1961(4)) 8 engaged in the numismatic industry did publish and advise through interstate wire media known as "ACT" that plaintiff is a 10 counterfeiter, and ascribed and accused plaintiff of other slanderous acts for the purpose of injuring plaintiff and his 11 12 business by preventing anyone in the numismatic industry from 13 engaging in any business transactions with plaintiff.

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- 22. In furtherance of this conspiracy and association between Hall, Ivy and Halperin, defendants Ivy, Halperin and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, caused all of the coins acquired from plaintiff as referred to Paragraph 17 above, to be transported through interstate commerce from the State of Ohio to the State of New York. Said interstate transportation of stolen items constitutes an act of racketeering within 18 U.S.C. Sections 2314 and 2315.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and alleges thereon, that within ten years last passed, defendant Hall, acting as an employee, agent, director and officer of that enterprise known as Professional Coin Grading Services, engaged in further and other 26 racketeering acts prohibited by 18 U.S.C. Section 1961, et seq., including but not limited to the following:
 - (a) Putting into interstate commerce counterfeit

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- Engaging in acts of mail and wire fraud for and in connection with the seeking of an appraisal by PCGS's competitor of said counterfeit currency or coins, in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1951.
- By reason of the acts of racketeering and the pattern of racketeering as above alleged by defendants Ivy, Halperin, Hall and Does 2 through 10, inclusive, and the conspiracy to commit the acts of theft by fraud and interstate transportation of stolen goods, plaintiff has been damaged in the sum of \$891,378 and, accordingly, plaintiff seeks damages in said sum and that said sum be tripled and that defendants be requirred to pay plaintiff's attorney's fees.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges 25. that at all times herein mentioned defendants Ivy, Halperin and Does 2 through 5, inclusive, were the agents, employees, directors or officers of the enterprise known as Heritage Capital Corporation and that in doing the things herein alleged were acting within the course and scope of said agency and employment, thus rendering Heritage liable for any damages attributable to said persons by reason of respondeat superior.
- 26. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that Defendant Hall and defendants Does 6 through 10 were acting at all times herein mentioned as the agents, employees, officers or directors of the enterprise known as Professional Coin Grading Services and that at all times herein mentioned they were acting 28 within the course and scope of said agency and employment;

27. In order to prevent further damage and harm to plaintiff, and in order to minimize the effects of the pattern of racketeering engaged in by the above-named persons, plaintiff seeks injunctive or other equitable order requiring Heritage and PCGS and its agents and employees to forthwith remit to plaintiff all coins received by them from defendant Heritage as being the coins of plaintiff.

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FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

PENDENT STATE CLAIMS

- On or about July 14, 1988, and to and including July 20, 28. 1988, plaintiff delivered to Doe 2, acting for defendants Ivy, Halperin, Hall and Heritage, gold and silver coins for an agreed upon sum of \$891,378. Said coins are itemized on Exhibit "A" hereof, and incorporated hereat by this reference.
- 29. Neither whole nor any part of said sum has been paid, and there is presently due, owing and payable from defendants Ivy, Halperin, Hall and Heritage to plaintiff the sum of \$891,378.
- 30. PCGS is a business enterprise presently operated through another entity, sued herein as Doe 1. Doe 1 is owned by defendants 23 Hall, Ivy and Halperin. The business of PCGS consists of the 24 grading, by appraisal, of valuable coins, sealing the coin so 25 appraised in an impenetrable plastic casing with its appraisal and 26 guaranteeing the value of the coin to be as graded based upon the then current market value for such coins of said grade.
 - 31. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges

that each and all of the defendants herein, in doing the act or actions herein alleged, were acting in consort with, and as the agents, employees, or representatives of each and all of their codefendants.

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- 32. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that Heritage was and is a mere sham and shell organized and operated as the alter ego of the individual defendants, Steven Ivy and James Halperin, for their personal benefit and advantage in that the individual defendants have at all times herein mentioned exercised total dominion and control over the corporate defendant and that the individual defendants were and are the only significant shareholders of the corporation. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and hereon alleges, that the individual defendants, Steven Ivy and James Halperin, and the corporate defendant, Heritage have so intermingled their personal and financial and independent that the corporate defendant was and is the alter ego of the individual defendants such that an injustice will result if the theoretical entity of the corporate defendant is not disregarded and the individual defendant's held liable for the indebtedness of the corporate defendant.
- 33. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges that PCGS was and is a mere sham and shell organized and operated as the alter ego of the individual defendants David Hall, Steven Ivy and James Halperin for their personal benefit and advantage in that said individual defendants have at all times herein mentioned exercised total dominion and control over PCGS. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and thereon alleges that the individual defendants Hall, Ivy and Halperin and the

corporate defendant PCGS have so intermingled their personal and financial affairs that the corporate defendant PCGS was and is the alter ego of defendant David Hall and that an injustice will result of the theoretical entity of the corporate defendant is not disregarded and the individual defendant David Hall be held liable for the indebtedness of the corporate defendant.

COUNT TWO

(Against Defendants Heritage, Steven Ivy And James Halperin For Goods Sold And Delivered)

- 34. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs through 33 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 35. Within two years, on or about July 14 through July 20, 1988, defendant Heritage as the alter ego of defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, became indebted to plaintiff for goods sold and delivered by plaintiff to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, who then and there agreed to pay the sum of \$807,378 for said goods.
- 36. Neither the whole nor any part of the above sum has been paid although demand therefore has been made and there is now due, owing and unpaid from defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin to plaintiff the sum of \$807,378, together with interest thereon at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 20, 1988.

COUNT THREE

(For Breach Of Oral Contract Against Defendants Heritage, Ivy nd Halperin)

37. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1

through 36 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.

38. On or about July 20, 1988, plaintiff and defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin entered into an oral agreement whereby plaintiff agreed to sell and deliver antique gold and silver coins having an agreed value of \$807,378, and defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin agreed to pay the specific sum of \$807,378 for said coins.

- 39. Plaintiff has performed all conditions; covenants and promises required by him on his part to be performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract and said coins were delivered to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin by plaintiff through plaintiff's agent on or about July 20, 1988.
- 40. On or about July 20, 1988, defendants breached the cral agreement by failing and refusing to pay the sum agreed upon, notwithstanding that defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin took possession of said gold and silver coins, and have acknowledged receipt thereof and now refuse to either forthwith pay the said agreed sum of \$807,378 or to return the coins, notwithstanding demand therefore having been made.
- 41. As a direct and proximate result of the breach of contract by defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, plaintiff has been damaged in the sum of \$807,378 plus interest thereon at the legal rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 20, 1988 until said sum is paid.

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(For Slander Per Se Against Defendants Professional Coin Grading Service, David Hall, Steven Ivy, James Halperin, Heritage Capital Corporation, And Does 1 Through 10, Inclusive)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 41 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that commencing on or about July 14, 1988 defendants David Hall, acting individually and for and on behalf of defendant PCGS and defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, acting individually a for and on behalf of defendant Heritage, and defendants Does 1 through 10, inclusive, published both by speaking and upon information and belief, in written form, the following words, of and concerning the plaintiff:
- (a) Defendant Hall published allegations that PCGS's security system had been breached and that between two hundred and five hundred coins were allegedly being illicitly sold as having been analyzed, graded and sealed by PCGS but which coins, in fact were not analyzed, graded and sealed by PCGS.
- (b) Defendant Hall, together with defendants Ivv and 22 Halperin, and defendants Does 1 through 10 orally published an acqueation accordating plaintiff with caid "illicit coinc essentially telling people with whom plaintiff did business, and who then owed plaintiff money, in connection with coins sold by plaintiff that such persons should not do business with plaintiff. Said named defendants further stated that plaintiff has been 28 selling illicit coins.

- 44. These words were heard by Joel Rettew, Charles
 Anestasia, Steven Ivy, James Halperin, John Highfill, Heritage
 Capital Corporation and other persons not presently known to
 plaintiff.
- 45. These words were slanderous per se because they attack plaintiff in his reputation in business and impugn to plaintiff criminal acts and fraudulent acts.
- altered any of the PCGS packaging, nor has plaintiff ever knowingly sold any coin in an altered PCGS package. Moreover, PCGS has placed in the marketplace packaged coins with gross errors in grading which plaintiff is informed and believes may constitute some of the allegedly "illicit" coins to which defendant Hall refered as set forth in allegations set forth in Paragraph 43, above.
- 47. The words carry a defamatory meaning because, the market value for any given coin is effected by the grading of said coin by PCGS. If a PCGS graded coin has been altered or substituted, the buyer will receive a coin having a value other than as represented

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by the grade of the coin set forth on the tag accompanying the coin in the sealed plastic container. If a coin merchant is accused of selling "illicit" coins, no one hearing and believing said accusation will do business with such person since they cannot rely upon the value of the coins being sold by such person.

- 48. The words were understood by those who read and/or heard them in a way that defamed plaintiff because, an "illicit" coin means that either the integrity of the plastic packaging has been damaged and the coin has been replaced or substituted for another coin, or the integrity of the plastic packaging has been compromised and the paper tag showing the grading of the coin has been altered or substituted In either way, the purchaser of the said coin is not getting that which is being represented as a PCGS specifically graded coin.
- 49. As a result of the above described words, plaintiff has 15 suffered general damages to his reputation in the sum of 16 \$10,000,000.
 - 50. As a further proximate result of the above decoribed words, plaintiff has suffered the following special damages:
- (a) Defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin have failed and refused, and continue to fail and refuse to pay the sum of \$891,378 due and owing for coins sold to said defendants by 23 plaintiff;
- (b) Plaintiff has been unable to engage in plaintiff's 25 business, trade and profession, because no one in the coin business 26 will buy from or sell to plaintiff. Plaintiff is informed and 27 believes, and thereon alleges that the total cessation of his 28 business from and after July 20, 1988 is directly attributable to

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the allegations made against him as hereinabove set forth and his entire business has ceased, all to his injury in the sum of \$10,000,000.

The above described words were spoken by defendant Hall and with malice, oppression and a reckless disregard for plaintiff's rights. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that he has been made a scapegoat by defendants in order to establish a focus of blame and to shift the attention from pecet internal arrors which if known to the community of coin traders, would adversely affect the marketplace since it would become difficult to rely upon the grading of PCGS to determine the value of a coin. By reason of such intentional, malicious and oppressive acts of the defendants and each of them, plaintiff is entitled to an award of exemplary and punitive damages in the amount of \$10,000,000.

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COUNT FIVE

(For Intentional Infliction Of Emotional Distress Against Defendants Hall, PCGS, Ivy, Halperin, Heritage, And Does 1 Through 10, Inclusive)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs through by nereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 53. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that in doing the acts hereinabove alleged, defendants intended to cause plaintiff great emotional distress. As a proximate result of 26 the acts of defendants, and each of them as hereinabove described, 27 plaintiff has sustained and continues to sustain emotional distres: 28 and mental suffering, not limited to sleepless nights, anxiety,

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nightmares and eating disorders, all to plaintiff's general damag in an amount not yet ascertained. Plaintiff will seek leave of this court to amend this complaint when same are ascertained.

- 54. As a further direct and proximate result of said conduct, plaintiff will incur medical and incidental expenses relating to the distress, the exact amount not yet ascertained and plaintiff will seek leave of this court to amend this complaint hantetrases are smoo most
- 55. By reason of the intentional acts of defendants, defendants, and each of them, acting with malice and oppression, designed to cause plaintiff mental and emotional dietress. Defendants, and each of them, are liable to plaintiff for exemplary and punitive damages in the sum of \$10,000,000.

COUNT SIX

(For Negligent Infliction Of Emotional Distress)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraph- 1 through 55 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 57. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that each and all of the representations hereinabove set forth were made by defendants, and each of them, without any justification or fact, or without any knowledge, information or evidence to support any of the defendants' claims as alleged in Paragraph 21, herein. As a direct and proximate result of the recklessness of the 20 defendants, and each of thom, in making the allegations as set 20 Forth in Faragraph 21, and in molding soid allogations without any 27 factual basis therefore, defendants and each of them were grossly 28 negligent.

- 58. As a direct and proximate result of the recklessness of the conduct of defendants and each of them plaintiff has sustained damage to his reputation in the business community, has sustained monetary damages in a sum in excess of \$950,000 and has sustained severe anguish and anxiety, mental and emotional distress, discomfort, pain and suffering, all to his general damages in a sur to be ascertained at the time of trial. Plaintiff will ask leave of the court to amend this complaint to set forth the same when ascertained.
- defendants, and each of them, plaintiff is informed and thereon alleges that he will sustain medical and incidental expenses relating to and in connection with the emotional distress herein alleged, in an amount not yet fully ascertained, and plaintiff will ash we of the court to amend this complaint to set forth the amount of special and incidental damages sustained, including but not limited to those for medical practitioners when same are ascertained.

COUNT SEVEN

(For Conversion Against Defendants

Ivy, Halperin, Heritage, Hall And PCGS)

- 60. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs : through 59 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 61. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that on or about July 22, 1988, defendants Ivy and Halperin, for and on behalf of defendant Heritage did convey, transfer and deliver to David Hall and PCGS each and every item of personal

- 62. Plaintiff alleges that said items, having not been paid for, are the personal property of plaintiff.
- Demand for the immediate return of plaintiff's property has been made upon defendants Hall, PCGS, Ivy, Halperin and Heritage, and said defendants, each and all, have refused to return said items, but have converted same to their own use and benefit, in derogation of plaintiff's rights thereto.
- 64. As a direct and proximate result of the conversion of said items of personal property, plaintiff has been deprived of the use and benefit of same, and defendants, and each of them, have been unjustly enriched by the use and benefit of same, all to plaintiff's damages in the sum of \$807,378.

COUNT EIGHT

(For Claim And Delivery Against Heritage, Ivy, Halperin, Hall And PCGS)

- Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 65. through 64 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges that, in the absence of payment for personal property identified and listed on Exhibit "A" hereof, and incorporated hereat by this reference, plaintiff is the true and only owner of said items.
- 67. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges. that defendants PCGS, Hall, Heritage, Ivy and/or Halperin, and Does 11 through 20, inclusive, claim an interest in and title to said 28 items of personal property adverse to the claims of plaintiff.

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68. Plaintiff has demanded return of the personal property from defendants named herein, and defendants have failed and refused, and continue to fail and refuse to deliver to plaintiff said items.

· COUNT NINE

(For Goods Sold And Delivered)

- 69. Plaintiff hereby incorporates and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 68 hereat as though fully set forth at this place.
- 70. Within two years and before July 14, 1988, defendant Heritage as the alter ego of defendants Steven Ivy and James Halperin, became indebted to plaintiff for goods sold and delivered by plaintiff to defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin, who then and there agreed to pay the sum of \$84,310 for said goods.
- 71. Neither the whole nor any part of the above sum has been paid although demand therefore has been made and there is now due, owing and unpaid from defendants Heritage, Ivy and Halperin to plaintiff the sum of \$84,310, together with interest thereon at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from July 1, 1988.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff prays for judgment against defendants, and each of them, as follows:

- For general damages according to proof;
- For special damages according to proof;
- For punitive damages according to proof;
- 4. For the immediate return of plaintiff's personal property;
- 5. For attorney's fees incurred in connection with the recovery of said personal property;

6. For costs of suit incurred herein; and
7. For such other and further relief as the court may
just and proper.
DATED: 9-9-88 KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS
By feet it m. ROSS
Attorneys for Plaintiff Gary Fernandez
Odly religines
DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.
DATED: 9-9-88 KLASS, HELMAN & ROSS
By Tefest M. ROSS
Attorneys for Plaintiff Gary Fernandez

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P.O. Box 5262 Kingwood, Texas 77325 (713) 360-3236

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